

# Foliated Lie and Courant Algebroids

by

Izu Vaisman

**ABSTRACT.** If  $A$  is a Lie algebroid over a foliated manifold  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ , a foliation of  $A$  is a Lie subalgebroid  $B$  with anchor image  $T\mathcal{F}$  and such that  $A/B$  is locally equivalent with Lie algebroids over the slice manifolds of  $\mathcal{F}$ . We give several examples and, for foliated Lie algebroids, we discuss the following subjects: the dual Poisson structure and Vaintrob's super-vector field, cohomology and deformations of the foliation, integration to a Lie groupoid. In the last section, we define a corresponding notion of a foliation of a Courant algebroid  $A$  as a bracket-closed, isotropic subbundle  $B$  with anchor image  $T\mathcal{F}$  and such that  $B^\perp/B$  is locally equivalent with Courant algebroids over the slice manifolds of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Examples that motivate the definition are given.

The main categories of interest for Differential Geometry are the  $C^\infty$  category and the complex analytic category. However, there also is a significant interest in the category of foliated manifolds. On the other hand, in the last thirty years Lie algebroids became a central theme of differential-geometric research, usually within the framework of the  $C^\infty$  category. Recently, a general study of holomorphic Lie algebroids has also been done (see [9, 10]). The aim of the present paper is to start a similar study of Lie algebroids in the  $C^\infty$ -foliated category.

Essentially, we will say that a Lie subalgebroid  $B$  is a foliation of the Lie algebroid  $A$  over the foliated manifold  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  if the anchor image of  $B$  is  $T\mathcal{F}$  and  $A/B$  is locally equivalent with Lie algebroids over the slice manifolds of  $\mathcal{F}$ . In Section 1, after giving the precise definitions and first properties, we discuss several examples of foliated Lie algebroids  $(A, B)$ : classical foliations, transitive foliations that correspond to foliated principal bundles, foliated Dirac structures, etc. In Section 2, we show that the tangent Lie algebroid of a foliated Lie algebroid is a foliated Lie algebroid. In Section 3, we establish the characteristic properties of the dual Poisson structure and of Vaintrob's super-vector field of a foliated Lie algebroid. In Section 4, we define the cohomological spectral sequence of a foliated Lie algebroid and prove a Poincaré lemma in a particular case. Then, we define deformations of a foliation  $B$  of  $A$  and prove the existence of corresponding, cohomological, infinitesimal deformations. In

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Section 5, we show that, if  $A$  is integrable to a Lie groupoid  $G$  and  $B$  is a foliation of  $A$ ,  $G$  has a foliation  $\mathcal{G}$  such that the restriction of the construction of the Lie algebroid of  $A$  to the leaves of  $\mathcal{G}$  produces the Lie subalgebroid  $B$ . Finally, in Section 6, we give a corresponding definition of foliated Courant algebroids. With a notation similar to the above, in the Courant case we will ask  $B$  to be a bracket-closed, isotropic subbundle of the Courant algebroid  $A$ , with anchor image  $T\mathcal{F}$ , such that  $B^\perp/B$  is locally equivalent with Courant algebroids over the slice manifolds of  $\mathcal{F}$ . A usual foliation is a foliation of the Courant algebroid  $TM \oplus T^*M$  in this sense.

In the whole paper, we will use the Einstein summation convention.

## 1 Definitions and examples

We begin by recalling some basic facts concerning foliations; the reader may find details in [18]. Consider an  $m$ -dimensional manifold  $M$  endowed with a  $C^\infty$ -foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  with  $n$ -dimensional leaves and codimension  $k = m - n$ . Then, each point has local adapted coordinates  $(x^a, y^u)$  ( $a, b, \dots = 1, \dots, k$ ;  $u = 1, \dots, n$ ), with origin-centered, rectangular range, such that the local equations of  $\mathcal{F}$  are  $x^a = \text{const.}$  and  $y^u$  are leaf-wise coordinates. The foliation has the following, associated exact sequence of vector bundles

$$(1.1) \quad 0 \rightarrow T\mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{\iota} TM \xrightarrow{\psi} \nu\mathcal{F} \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $T\mathcal{F}$  is the tangent bundle of the leaves, which will also be denoted by  $F$ , and  $\nu\mathcal{F} = TM/F$  is the transversal bundle of the foliation.

A mapping  $\varphi : (M_1, \mathcal{F}_1) \rightarrow (M_2, \mathcal{F}_2)$  between two foliated manifolds is a *foliated mapping* if it sends leaves of  $\mathcal{F}_1$  into leaves of  $\mathcal{F}_2$ . The local equations of such a map are of the form

$$(1.2) \quad x_2^{a_2} = x_2^{a_2}(x_1^{a_1}), \quad y_2^{u_2} = y_2^{u_2}(x_1^{a_1}, y_1^{u_1}).$$

The mapping  $\varphi$  is called a *leaf-wise immersion, submersion, local diffeomorphism* if the morphism induced by its differential  $\varphi_*$  between the tangent bundles  $T\mathcal{F}_1, T\mathcal{F}_2$  is an injection, surjection, isomorphism, respectively. There also exists a similar notion of a *transversal immersion, submersion, local diffeomorphism* that refers to the transversal bundles  $\nu\mathcal{F}_1, \nu\mathcal{F}_2$ .

Let  $\pi_{P \rightarrow M} : P \rightarrow (M, \mathcal{F})$  (notice our notation for projections of bundles onto the base manifold; the index of  $\pi$  will be omitted if no confusion is feared) be a principal  $G$ -bundle over the foliated manifold  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ .  $P$  is a *foliated bundle* if it is endowed with a foliation  $\mathcal{F}^P$  that satisfies the conditions:

- (i)  $T\mathcal{F}^P$  has a trivial intersection with the tangent spaces of the fibers (i.e., the intersection is equal to 0 and  $T\mathcal{F}^P$  is “horizontal”),
- (ii)  $\mathcal{F}^P$  is invariant by  $G$ -right translations,
- (iii) the projection  $\pi$  is a foliated leaf-wise submersion.

In fact, because of (ii)  $\pi$  induces a covering map between the leaves of  $\mathcal{F}^P$  and the corresponding leaves of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Equivalently, a foliated principal bundle

may be characterized by an atlas of local trivializations with  $G$ -valued, foliated transition functions where  $G$  is foliated by points. A foliated principal bundle  $P$  may be seen as the glue-up of pullbacks of  $G$ -principal bundles on the local transversal manifolds of the leaves of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

The associated bundles of a foliated principal bundle are called foliated bundles too; they also have an induced foliation with leaves that cover the leaves of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Accordingly, a vector bundle is foliated if the corresponding principal bundle of frames is foliated. It follows that a foliated structure on a vector bundle  $\pi : A \rightarrow M$  is a maximal local-trivialization atlas, defined on neighborhoods  $\{U\}$ , where the local bases  $(b_i)$  are related by matrices of  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated functions. Then,  $A$  has the  $\mathcal{F}$ -covering foliation  $\mathcal{F}^A$  and a cross section  $s$  of  $A$  is foliated if the corresponding mapping  $s : (M, \mathcal{F}) \rightarrow (A, \mathcal{F}^A)$  is foliated. Over a trivializing neighborhood  $U$  we have  $s = \alpha^i b_i$  where  $\alpha^i$  are  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated functions. Furthermore, we have a sheaf  $\Phi_{\mathcal{F}}(A)$  of germs of foliated cross-sections, which is a locally free sheaf-module over the sheaf  $\Phi_{\mathcal{F}}$  of germs of foliated functions on  $M$  and which spans the sheaf  $\Phi(A)$  of germs of cross sections of  $A$  over  $C^\infty(M)$ . Using the fact that  $\Phi(A)$  is a locally free sheaf it follows that every subsheaf  $\Phi_{\mathcal{F}}(A) \subseteq \Phi(A)$  that is a locally free sheaf-module over  $\Phi_{\mathcal{F}}$  and spans  $\Phi(A)$  yields a well defined foliated structure on  $A$ . Indeed, let  $a_i$  be a basis of local cross sections of  $A$ . Since  $\Phi_{\mathcal{F}}(A)$  spans  $\Phi(A)$ , we have  $a_i = \sum \beta_\alpha^\lambda b_\lambda$  with the germs of  $b_\lambda \in \Phi_{\mathcal{F}}(A)$ . The total number of elements  $b_\lambda$  is finite and an independent subsystem may be used as a foliated local basis. Two such bases are related by foliated transition functions.

A foliated structure of  $A$  may be identified with a family of vector bundles  $A_{Q_U}$  over quotient spaces  $Q_U = U/U \cap \mathcal{F}$  such that  $A|_U = \pi_{U \rightarrow Q_U}^{-1}(A_{Q_U})$  ( $\{U\}$  is an open covering of  $M$  and  $\pi^{-1}$  denotes bundle pullback). Conversely, a family  $\{A_{Q_U}\}$  defines a foliated bundle  $A$  if  $\pi_{U \rightarrow Q_U}^{-1}(A_{Q_U}|_{U \cap V}) = \pi_{V \rightarrow Q_V}^{-1}(A_{Q_V}|_{U \cap V})$ . If  $\mathcal{F}$  consists of the fibers of a submersion  $M \rightarrow Q$ , and if these fibers are assumed to be connected and simply connected, then a foliated bundle  $A$  over  $M$  is the pullback of a projected bundle  $A_Q \rightarrow Q$  (see Lemma 2.5 and Proposition 2.7 of [18]).

Finally, a *foliated morphism*  $\phi : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  between two foliated vector bundles over the same basis  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  is a vector bundle morphism that sends foliated cross sections to foliated cross sections.

The most important example of a foliated vector bundle is the transversal bundle  $\nu\mathcal{F}$  of the foliation  $\mathcal{F}$ . Notice that the foliated cross sections  $s \in \Gamma_{fol}\nu\mathcal{F}$  act on foliated functions  $f \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$  (the index ‘‘fol’’ is a shortcut for ‘‘foliated’’) by  $s(f) = Xf \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$ , for every  $X$  such that  $s = [X]_{\text{mod. } F}$  ( $s(f)$  is well defined since  $X$  is a *foliated vector field*, i.e., a foliated cross section  $X : (M, \mathcal{F}) \rightarrow (TM, T\mathcal{F})$ ). Furthermore, on the space  $\Gamma_{fol}\nu\mathcal{F}$ , there exists a well defined Lie algebra bracket

$$(1.3) \quad [[X_1]_{\text{mod. } F}, [X_2]_{\text{mod. } F}]_{\nu\mathcal{F}} = [X_1, X_2]_{\text{mod. } F}$$

induced by the Lie bracket of the corresponding foliated vector fields.

Accordingly, the definition of a Lie algebroid suggests the following definition.

**Definition 1.1.** An  $\mathcal{F}$ -transversal-Lie algebroid over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  is a foliated bundle  $E$  endowed with a Lie algebra bracket  $[ , ]_E$  on  $\Gamma_{fol}E$  and a foliated, *transversal anchor* morphism  $\sharp_E : E \rightarrow \nu\mathcal{F}$  such that

- 1)  $\sharp_E[e_1, e_2]_E = [\sharp_Ee_1, \sharp_Ee_2]_{\nu\mathcal{F}}, \forall e_1, e_2 \in \Gamma_{fol}E,$
- 2)  $[e_1, fe_2]_E = f[e_1, e_2]_E + (\sharp_Ee_1(f))e_2, \forall e_1, e_2 \in \Gamma_{fol}E, f \in C_{fol}^\infty(M).$

The symbols  $\sharp, [ , ]$  will be used for any transversal-Lie and Lie algebroid while the index that denotes the bundle will be omitted if there is no risk of confusion. Notice also that we may not ask the morphism  $\sharp_E$  to be foliated, a priori; this follows from condition 2), which implies  $\sharp e_1(f) \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F}), \forall f \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$ . The following result is obvious

**Proposition 1.1.** If  $E$  is a transversal-Lie algebroid over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ ,  $\nu\mathcal{F}$  projects to the tangent bundles of the local quotient spaces  $Q_U$  of  $\mathcal{F}$  and the local projected bundles  $\{E_{Q_U}\}$  are Lie algebroids. In the case of a submersion  $M \rightarrow Q$  with connected and simply connected fibers,  $E \rightarrow M$  projects to a Lie algebroid over  $Q$ .

A transversal-Lie algebroid is not a Lie algebroid, and we shall define the notion of a foliated Lie algebroid as follows.

If  $A$  is a Lie algebroid over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  and if  $B$  is a Lie subalgebroid, a cross section  $a \in \Gamma A$  will be called a *B-foliated cross section* if  $[b, a]_A \in \Gamma B, \forall b \in \Gamma B$ . The correctness of this definition follows from the fact that  $[b, a]_A \in \Gamma B$  implies  $[fb, a]_A = f[b, a]_A - (\sharp_A a(f))b \in \Gamma B$ . We shall denote by  $\Gamma_B A$  the space of  $B$ -foliated cross sections of  $A$ . The Jacobi identity shows that the space  $\Gamma_B A$  is closed by  $A$ -brackets. If  $\sharp_A(B) \subseteq T\mathcal{F}$  then,  $\forall a \in \Gamma_B A$  and  $\forall f \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$ , we have  $[b, fa]_A \in \Gamma_B A$ . Now, we give the following definition

**Definition 1.2.** If  $A$  is a Lie algebroid on  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ , a *foliation of  $A$  over  $\mathcal{F}$*  is a Lie subalgebroid  $B \subseteq A$  that satisfies the following two conditions: 1)  $\sharp_A(B) = F$ , 2) locally,  $\Gamma A$  is spanned by  $\Gamma_B A$  over  $C^\infty(M)$  (this is called the *foliated-generation condition*). A pair  $(A, B)$  as above will be called a *foliated Lie algebroid*. If  $\sharp_A : B \rightarrow F$  is a vector bundle isomorphism,  $(A, B)$  is a *minimally foliated Lie algebroid*.

**Remark 1.1.** The condition that  $B$  is closed by  $A$ -brackets may be replaced by the Frobenius condition:  $\forall \alpha \in \text{ann } B$ , the  $A$ -exterior differential  $d_A \alpha$  belongs to the ideal of  $A$ -forms generated by  $\text{ann } B$ .

**Lemma 1.1.** If  $B$  is a foliation of  $A$  and  $C$  is a complementary subbundle of  $B$  in  $A$  ( $A = B \oplus C$ ),  $\Gamma C$  has local bases that consist of  $B$ -foliated cross sections of  $A$ .

*Proof.* Let  $(c_h)$  be a local basis of  $\Gamma C$  over an open neighborhood  $U \subseteq M$ . By the foliated-generation condition we have

$$c_h = \gamma_h^u a_{(h)u} = \gamma_h^u \text{pr}_C a_{(h)u},$$

where  $\gamma_h^u$  are differentiable functions and  $a_{(h)u}$ , therefore,  $pr_C a_{(h)u}$  too, are local  $B$ -foliated cross sections of  $A$ . Since the set  $\{pr_C a_{(h)u}\}$  is finite, after shrinking the neighborhood  $U$  as necessary, there exists a subset of linearly independent, local cross sections  $\{pr_C a_v\}$  such that  $c_h = \lambda_h^v a_v pr_C a_v$ . This subset obviously is the required local basis of  $\Gamma C$ .  $\square$

**Remark 1.2.** The complementary subbundle  $C$  may have elements with projection in  $F$  since we did not ask  $B = \sharp_A^{-1}(F)$ . On the other hand, by condition 1) of Definition 1.2, there exist decompositions  $B = \ker \sharp_B \oplus P$  where  $P$  is a subbundle of  $B$ .

**Proposition 1.2.** *If  $B$  is a foliation of the Lie algebroid  $A$ , then the vector bundle  $E = A/B$  is a transversal-Lie algebroid on  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ .*

*Proof.* Consider a decomposition  $A = B \oplus C$  and take  $B$ -foliated local bases of  $C$  over an open covering  $\{U\}$  of  $M$ , which exist by Lemma 1.1. Let  $\tilde{a}_v = \lambda_v^w a_w$  be a transition between two such bases and take the bracket by  $b \in \Gamma B$ . We get  $(\sharp b)\lambda_u^v = 0$  and, since  $\sharp(B) = F$ , the functions  $\lambda_u^v$  must be  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated. Thus,  $C$  has an induced foliated structure, which transfers to  $A/B \approx C$ . We notice that  $[a]_{\text{mod. } B} \in \Gamma_{\text{fol}}(A/B)$  if and only if  $a \in \Gamma_B A$ . Furthermore, the bracket of  $B$ -foliated cross sections of  $A$ , which is  $B$ -foliated too, descends to a well defined Lie bracket on  $\Gamma_{\text{fol}} E$ . Finally, the anchor  $\sharp_A$  induces an anchor  $\sharp_E : E \rightarrow \nu \mathcal{F}$  as required by Definition 1.1. The fact that  $\sharp_E$  is a foliated morphism may be justified as in the observation that follows Definition 1.1. Alternatively, we can see that,  $\forall a \in \Gamma_B A$ ,  $\sharp_A a$  is a foliated vector field on  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  as follows: condition 1) of Definition 1.2 shows that a vector field  $Y \in \Gamma F$  is of the form  $Y = \sharp_A b$ ,  $b \in \Gamma B$ , hence,

$$[Y, \sharp_A a]_A = [\sharp_A b, \sharp_A a]_A = \sharp_A [b, a] \in \Gamma F,$$

which is the required property.  $\square$

**Corollary 1.1.** *A foliated Lie algebroid  $(A, B)$  over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  produces a commutative diagram*

$$(1.4) \quad \begin{array}{ccccccc} 0 & \rightarrow & B & \xrightarrow{j} & A & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & E \rightarrow 0 \\ & & \sharp_B \downarrow & & \sharp_A \downarrow & & \sharp_E \downarrow \\ 0 & \rightarrow & T\mathcal{F} & \xrightarrow{\iota} & TM & \xrightarrow{\psi} & \nu \mathcal{F} \rightarrow 0 \end{array}$$

where the lines are exact sequences of vector bundles.

**Definition 1.3.** If the transversal-Lie algebroid  $E$  is foliately equivalent with a quotient  $A/B$  where  $(A, B)$  is a foliated Lie algebroid, then  $E$  may be placed in a diagram (1.4) and  $A$  will be called an *extension* of  $E$ . An extension of  $E$  such that  $B \approx F$  will be called a *minimal extension*.

In what follows we give several examples of foliated Lie algebroids.

**Example 1.1.** For any foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  of a manifold  $M$ ,  $T\mathcal{F}$  is a foliation of the Lie algebroid  $TM$ .

**Example 1.2.** If a Lie algebroid  $A$  has a regular subalgebroid  $B$ ,  $M$  has the foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  such that  $F = \sharp(B)$ . Then,  $(A, B)$  is a foliated Lie algebroid if the foliated-generation condition is satisfied. For instance, if  $A$  is regular, we may take  $B = A$  and the foliated-generation condition is trivially satisfied. Another obvious example is that of a regular subalgebroid  $B$  such that  $B \subseteq \ker \sharp_A$ . Then  $B$  is a foliation of  $A$  over the foliation of  $M$  by points. For instance, let  $J^1 A$  be the first jet Lie algebroid of  $A$  defined in [5]. It is well known that one has the exact sequence

$$(1.5) \quad 0 \rightarrow \text{Hom}(TM, A) \xrightarrow{\subseteq} J^1 A \xrightarrow{\pi} A \rightarrow 0,$$

where  $\pi(j_x^1 a) = a(x)$  ( $x \in M, a \in \Gamma A$ ) is a Lie algebroid morphism, therefore,  $\ker \pi = \text{Hom}(TM, A)$  is a regular Lie subalgebroid of  $J^1 A$ . This subalgebroid is included in  $\ker \sharp_{J^1 A}$  because  $j_x^1 a \in \ker \pi_x$  implies  $\sharp_{J^1 A}(j_x^1 a) = \sharp_A(a(x)) = 0$  (the equality  $\sharp_{J^1 A}(j_x^1 a) = \sharp_A a(x)$  is a part of the definition given in [5]). Thus,  $\text{Hom}(TM, A)$  is a foliation of  $J^1 A$  over the points of  $M$ .

**Example 1.3.** The typical example of a transitive Lie algebroid is  $A = TP/G$ , where  $\pi : P \rightarrow M$  is a principal bundle of structure group  $G$  over  $M$  and the quotient is the space of the orbits of  $TP$  by the action of the differential of the right action of  $G$  on  $P$ . The cross sections of  $A$  may be identified with right-invariant vector fields on  $P$ , which allows to define the bracket, and the anchor is induced by  $\pi_* : TP \rightarrow TM$  [15]. Now, assume that  $M$  has the foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $P$  is a foliated principal bundle with the covering foliation  $\mathcal{F}^P$  of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Then, we get a Lie subalgebroid  $B = T\mathcal{F}^P/G \subseteq A$  such that the restriction of the anchor of  $A$  to  $B$  has the image  $T\mathcal{F}$ . The foliated-generation condition of  $A$  with respect to  $B$  is satisfied because it is satisfied for  $TP$  with respect to  $T\mathcal{F}^P$  and  $A/B = (TP/T\hat{\mathcal{F}})/G$ . Therefore,  $(A, B)$  is a foliated Lie algebroid.

**Example 1.4.** Following [15], if  $P$  is the bundle of frames of a vector bundle  $\pi : E \rightarrow M$ , Example 1.3 has the following equivalent form. Let  $A$  be the transitive Lie algebroid  $\mathcal{D}(E)$  whose cross sections are the linear differential operators  $\Gamma E \rightarrow \Gamma E$  of order  $\leq 1$ . The bracket is the commutant of the operators and the anchor is defined by the symbol of the operator. In the presence of a foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $M$  and if we assume  $E$  to be foliated,  $\mathcal{D}(E)$  has a Lie subalgebroid  $B = \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}(E)$  defined by the operators whose symbol is a vector field tangent to  $\mathcal{F}$  ( $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}(E)$  is commutant closed since  $F = T\mathcal{F}$  is closed by Lie brackets), and the anchor sends  $B$  onto the tangent bundle  $F$ : if  $Y \in \Gamma F$ , we get an operator  $D$  of symbol  $Y$  by putting  $Ds = 0$  for  $s \in \Gamma_{fol}(E)$  and

$$(1.6) \quad Dt = \sum (Y f_i) s_i, \quad \forall t = \sum f_i s_i, \quad s_i \in \Gamma_{fol} E, f_i \in C^\infty(M)$$

(the definition is correct since if  $s \in \Gamma_{fol}(E)$  and  $f \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$  (1.6) gives  $D(fs) = 0$ ). The foliated-generation condition is satisfied too. Indeed, an operator of symbol  $X$  is of the form  $D = \nabla_X + \phi$ , where  $\nabla$  is a covariant derivative and  $\phi \in \text{End}(E)$ , therefore,  $\phi \in \mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}(E)$ . The operator  $D$  is foliated with respect to  $\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{F}}(E)$  if and only if  $X$  is foliated with respect to  $\mathcal{F}$  and it

is known that the vector fields on  $M$  satisfy the foliated-generation condition. Thus, the pair  $(A, B)$  considered above is a foliated Lie algebroid.

**Example 1.5.** Let  $D$  be a Dirac structure on  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  such that  $F \subseteq D$  ( $D$  is  $\mathcal{F}$ -projectable [25]). Then,  $(D, F)$  is a foliated Lie algebroid. The fact that the foliated-generation condition is satisfied was proven in [25] (where, also, concrete examples were given). We notice that there are foliated Dirac structures where  $F$  is strictly included in  $\sharp_D^{-1}(F)$  ( $\sharp_D = pr_{TM}$ ). For instance,

$$D = F \oplus \{(\sharp_P \alpha, \alpha) / \alpha \in \text{ann } F\},$$

where  $P$  is a foliated bivector field on  $M$  such that the Schouten-Nijenhuis bracket  $[P, P]$  vanishes on  $\text{ann } F$  ([25], Example 5.1).

**Example 1.6.** Let  $D$  be a regular Dirac structure on  $M$  with the (regular) characteristic foliation  $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $E = T\mathcal{E} = pr_{TM}D$  and let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a subfoliation of  $\mathcal{E}$ . Put

$$D_{\mathcal{F}} = D \cap (F \oplus T^*M).$$

Notice that the mapping  $\psi : D/D_{\mathcal{F}}(x) \rightarrow E/F(x)$  given by  $[(X, \xi)]_{\text{mod. } D_F} \mapsto [X]_{\text{mod. } F}$  is an isomorphism of vector spaces  $\forall x \in M$ . The existence of this isomorphism shows that  $\dim D_{\mathcal{F}}(x) = \text{const}$ . Hence,  $D_{\mathcal{F}}$  is a vector subbundle of  $D$ , which obviously is a Lie subalgebroid of  $D$  with anchor image  $F$ . Moreover, since  $\mathcal{F}$  is a subfoliation of  $\mathcal{E}$ , the vector bundle  $E/F$  is  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated and so is its isomorphic image  $D/D_{\mathcal{F}}$ . This shows that the pair  $(D, D_{\mathcal{F}})$  satisfies the foliated-generation condition and is a foliated Lie algebroid.

**Proposition 1.3.** *For any transversal-Lie algebroid  $E$  over the foliated manifold  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  and any lift  $\rho : E \rightarrow TM$  of  $\sharp_E$  ( $\psi \circ \rho = \sharp_E$ ,  $\psi = pr_{\nu\mathcal{F}}$ ) there exists a canonical minimal extension  $(A_0, \sharp_0, [, ]_0)$  with  $A_0 = F \oplus E$ ,  $\sharp_0 = Id + \rho$  and*

$$(1.7) \quad \begin{aligned} [Y_1, Y_2]_0 &= [Y_1, Y_2], \quad [Y, e]_0 = [Y, \rho e], \quad [e, Y]_0 = [\rho e, Y] \\ [e_1, e_2]_0 &= ([\rho e_1, \rho e_2] - \rho[e_1, e_2]_E) + [e_1, e_2]_E, \end{aligned}$$

$\forall Y, Y_1, Y_2 \in \Gamma F$ ,  $\forall e, e_1, e_2 \in \Gamma_{\text{fol}} E$ , where the non-indexed brackets are Lie brackets of vector fields. Conversely, for any minimal extension  $A$  of  $E$ , there exists a lift  $\rho$  such that  $A$  is isomorphic to a twisted form of the canonical extension of  $E$  by  $F$ .

*Proof.* The qualification ‘‘twisted’’ is similar to that used in the notion of a twisted Dirac structure and its exact meaning will appear at the end of the proof. We shall use the content and notation of diagram (1.4), which includes the mapping  $\psi = pr_{\nu\mathcal{F}}$ . Notice that a lift  $\rho$  has the property that  $\rho e$  is a foliated vector field  $\forall e \in \Gamma_{\text{fol}} E$ . If we extend (1.7) by

$$[Y, fe]_0 = f[Y, \rho e] + (Yf)e, \quad [e_1, fe_2]_0 = f[e_1, e_2]_0 + \rho e_1(f)e_2,$$

$\forall f \in C^\infty(M)$ , we get a skew-symmetric bracket on  $\Gamma A_0$ . It is easy to see that the extension is compatible with (1.7) for  $f \in C_{\text{fol}}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$ . Also, straightforward calculations show that the axioms of a Lie algebroid, including the Jacobi

identity, are satisfied on arguments  $Y \in \Gamma F, e \in \Gamma_{fol}E$ . Since these types of cross sections locally generate  $\Gamma A_0$ , this proves the existence of the canonical extension. Notice that, for  $E = \nu\mathcal{F}$ ,  $\rho$  is a splitting of the lower line of (1.4) and, if we identify  $F \oplus \approx F \oplus \text{im } \rho = TM$ , the previous construction yields the standard Lie algebroid structure of  $TM$ .

For the converse, we start with diagram (1.4), which yields  $A = \phi(F) \oplus \tau(E)$  where  $\phi : F \approx B, \phi^{-1} = \sharp_B$  ( $\phi$  exists because the extension is minimal) and  $\tau : E \rightarrow A$  is a splitting of the upper exact sequence of the diagram ( $\sigma \circ \tau = Id$ ). Then, we consider the lift  $\rho = \sharp_A \circ \tau$ , which implies  $\sharp_A = \phi^{-1} + \rho \circ \sigma$ . As for the brackets, we must have

$$\phi^{-1}[\phi Y_1, \phi Y_2]_A = \sharp_A[\phi Y_1, \phi Y_2]_A = [\sharp_A \phi Y_1, \sharp_A \phi Y_2] = [Y_1, Y_2],$$

i.e.,  $[\phi Y_1, \phi Y_2]_A = \phi[Y_1, Y_2]$ . Then, since  $\sigma[\phi Y, \tau e]_A = [\sigma \phi Y, \sigma \tau e]_E = 0, [\phi Y, \tau e]_A \in \Gamma B$  and

$$\phi^{-1}[\phi Y, \tau e]_A = \sharp_A[\phi Y, \tau e]_A = [Y, \sharp_A \tau e] \Leftrightarrow [\phi Y, \tau e]_A = \phi[Y, \rho e], \forall e \in \Gamma_{fol}E.$$

Finally, for  $e_1, e_2 \in \Gamma_{fol}E$ , we have

$$\sharp_A[\tau e_1, \tau e_2]_A - \rho[e_1, e_2]_E = [\rho e_1, \rho e_2] - \rho[e_1, e_2]_E \in \Gamma F$$

because, if we apply  $\psi$  to the right hand side of the equality, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \psi[\rho e_1, \rho e_2] - \sharp_E[e_1, e_2]_E &= [\psi \rho e_1, \psi \rho e_2]_{\nu\mathcal{F}} - \sharp_E[e_1, e_2]_E \\ &= [\sharp_E e_1, \sharp_E e_2]_{\nu\mathcal{F}} - \sharp_E[e_1, e_2]_E = 0 \end{aligned}$$

by the axioms of a transversal-Lie algebroid. Now, we notice that, if  $a \in A$ ,  $\sharp_A a \in \Gamma F$  if and only if  $a = \phi Y + \tau e$  where  $e \in \ker \sharp_E$ ; indeed, by the commutativity of diagram (1.4),  $\psi \sharp_A \tau(e) = 0$  is equivalent to  $\sharp_E e = 0$ . This fact and the previous observation justify the formula

$$\begin{aligned} (1.8) \quad [\tau e_1, \tau e_2]_A &= ([\tau e_1, \tau e_2]_A - \tau[e_1, e_2]_E) + \tau[e_1, e_2]_E \\ &= [\phi([\rho e_1, \rho e_2] - \rho[e_1, e_2]_E) + \tau(\lambda(e_1, e_2))] + \tau[e_1, e_2]_E, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda : \wedge^2 E \rightarrow E$  is a 2-form with values in the kernel of  $\sharp_E$ . Therefore,  $A$  is isomorphic by  $\phi + \tau$  to the canonical extension of  $E$  by  $F$  twisted by the addition of the form  $\lambda$ . The latter must also be asked to satisfy conditions that ensure the Jacobi identity.  $\square$

**Remark 1.3.** In [3] the authors define a reduction of Lie algebroids that, essentially, is a projection along the fibers of a surjective submersion  $\pi : M \rightarrow M'$ . Namely,  $A \rightarrow M$  reduces to  $A' \rightarrow M'$  if there exists a Lie algebroid morphism [15] ( $\Pi : A \rightarrow A', \pi : M \rightarrow M'$ ). One can see that, if  $B$  is a foliation of  $A$  over the foliation of  $M$  by the fibers of  $\pi$  and if the fibers are connected and simply connected, then  $A$  reduces to  $A'$  defined by  $A/B = \pi^{-1}A'$ .

## 2 The tangent Lie algebroid

In this section we will show that the tangent Lie algebroid of a foliated Lie algebroid  $(A, B)$  over a foliated manifold  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  has a natural structure of a foliated Lie algebroid over  $(TM, T\mathcal{F})$ . For this purpose, we formulate the definition of the tangent Lie algebroid of a Lie algebroid [16] in a suitable (but, not new) form.

Let  $\pi : A \rightarrow M$  be an arbitrary vector bundle. Take a neighborhood  $U \subseteq M$  with local coordinates  $(x^i)_{i=1}^m$ , with the local basis  $(a_\alpha)_{\alpha=1}^r$  of  $\Gamma A$  ( $r = \text{rank } A$ ) and the corresponding fiber coordinates  $(\xi^\alpha)$ . On the intersection of two such neighborhoods  $U \cap \tilde{U}$ , these coordinates have transition functions of the following local form

$$(2.1) \quad \tilde{x}^i = \tilde{x}^i(x^j), \quad \tilde{\xi}^\alpha = \Theta_\beta^\alpha(x^j)\xi^\beta \quad (\tilde{a}_\alpha = \Psi_\alpha^\gamma a_\gamma, \quad \Psi_\alpha^\gamma \Theta_\gamma^\beta = \delta_\alpha^\beta).$$

Correspondingly, one has natural coordinates  $(x^i, \dot{x}^i)$  on  $T_U M$  and  $(x^i, \xi^\alpha, \dot{x}^i, \dot{\xi}^\alpha)$  on  $T_{\pi^{-1}U} A$ , with the following transition functions:

$$(2.2) \quad \tilde{x}^i = \tilde{x}^i(x^j), \quad \tilde{\xi}^\alpha = \Theta_\beta^\alpha(x^j)\xi^\beta, \quad \dot{\tilde{x}}^i = \frac{\partial \tilde{x}^i}{\partial x^j} \dot{x}^j, \quad \dot{\tilde{\xi}}^\alpha = \frac{\partial \Theta_\beta^\alpha}{\partial x^j} \xi^\beta \dot{x}^j + \Theta_\beta^\alpha \dot{\xi}^\beta.$$

Formulas (2.2) show the existence of the double vector bundle

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} TA & \xrightarrow{\pi_*} & TM \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ A & \xrightarrow{\pi} & M \end{array}$$

where  $TA$  is a vector bundle over  $A$  with base coordinates  $(x^i, \xi^\alpha)$  and fiber coordinates  $(\dot{x}^i, \dot{\xi}^\alpha)$  and  $TA$  is a vector bundle over  $TM$  with base coordinates  $(x^i, \dot{x}^i)$  and fiber coordinates  $(\xi^\alpha, \dot{\xi}^\alpha)$ . (Notice that the cross sections of  $\pi_*$  are not vector fields on  $A$ !)

If  $A = TM$ , the indices  $\alpha, \beta, \dots$  may be replaced by  $i, j, \dots$  and  $\Theta_j^i = \partial \tilde{x}^i / \partial x^j$ , which shows the existence of the flip diffeomorphism  $\phi : TTM \rightarrow \bar{TTM}$  defined by the local coordinate equations

$$(2.4) \quad \phi(x^i, \xi^\alpha, \dot{x}^i, \dot{\xi}^\alpha) = (x^i, \dot{x}^i, \xi^\alpha, \dot{\xi}^\alpha).$$

On the fibration  $TA \rightarrow A$  the fiber coordinates  $(\dot{x}^i, \dot{\xi}^\alpha)$  are produced by the local bases of cross sections  $(\partial/\partial x^i, \partial/\partial \xi^\alpha)$ . On the fibration  $\pi_* : TA \rightarrow TM$  the fiber coordinates  $(\xi^\alpha, \dot{\xi}^\alpha)$  are produced by local bases  $(c_\alpha, \partial/\partial \xi^\alpha)$ , where the vector  $c_\alpha$  is the image of  $a_\alpha$  under the natural identification of the tangent space of the fibers of  $A$  with the fibers themselves, which are vector spaces. (The previous assertion is justified by checking the invariance of the expression  $\xi^\alpha c_\alpha + \dot{\xi}^\alpha (\partial/\partial \xi^\alpha)$  by the coordinate transformations (2.2).) It follows that for  $z \in TA$  the intersection space of the fibers of the two vector bundle structures of  $TA$  is

$$(2.5) \quad \mathcal{P}_z = \pi_{TA \rightarrow A}^{-1}(\pi_{TA \rightarrow A}(z)) \cap (\pi_{A \rightarrow M})_*^{-1}((\pi_{A \rightarrow M})_*(z)) = \text{span} \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^\alpha} \right\}.$$

Therefore,  $P = \cup_{z \in TA} \mathcal{P}_z$  is a vector subbundle of  $TA$ , which we call the *bi-vertical subbundle*.

Furthermore, like for the tangent bundle  $A = TM$ , there are two lifting processes of cross sections of  $\pi : A \rightarrow M$  to cross sections of  $\pi_* : TA \rightarrow TM$ .

One is the *complete lift*  $a \mapsto a^C = a_*$ , which sends the cross section  $a$  to the differential of the mapping  $a : M \rightarrow A$ . The expression of  $a_*$  by means of the local coordinates  $(x^i, \dot{x}^i)$  on  $TM$  and  $(x^i, \dot{x}^i, \xi^\alpha, \dot{\xi}^\alpha)$  on  $TA$  is

$$(x^i, \dot{x}^i) \mapsto (x^i, \dot{x}^i, \xi^\alpha(x^i), \dot{x}^i \frac{\partial \xi^\alpha}{\partial x^i}),$$

where  $a = \xi^\alpha(x^i)a_\alpha$ , whence we get

$$(2.6) \quad a^C = \xi^\alpha c_\alpha + \dot{x}^i \frac{\partial \xi^\alpha}{\partial x^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^\alpha}.$$

The second lift, called the *vertical lift* and denoted by an upper index  $V$ , is the isomorphism between the pullback  $\pi_{TA \rightarrow A \rightarrow M}^{-1} A$  of the vector bundle  $A$  to  $TM$  and the bi-vertical subbundle  $P$  defined by

$$(2.7) \quad a = \eta^\alpha a_\alpha \mapsto a^V = \eta^\alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^\alpha}.$$

(Formulas (2.1) show that the bases  $(a_\alpha)$  and  $(\partial/\partial \xi^\alpha)$  have the same transition functions.)

Notice the following interpretation of the local basis  $(c_\alpha, \partial/\partial \xi^\alpha)$  of  $TA$  over  $TM$

$$(2.8) \quad a_\alpha^C = c_\alpha, \quad a_\alpha^V = \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^\alpha}.$$

Notice also the following properties

$$(2.9) \quad (fa)^C = fa^C + f^C a^V, \quad (fa)^V = fa^V \quad (f \in C^\infty(M), f^C = \dot{x}^i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x^i}).$$

Now, assume that  $(A, \sharp_A, [\cdot, \cdot]_A)$  is a Lie algebroid. Define an anchor  $\sharp_{TA} : TA \rightarrow TTM$  by putting

$$(2.10) \quad \sharp_{TA} c_\alpha = (\sharp_A a_\alpha)^C, \quad \sharp_{TA} \frac{\partial}{\partial \xi^\alpha} = (\sharp_A a_\alpha)^V,$$

where in the right hand side the lifts are those of the Lie algebroid  $TM$ . A simple calculation shows that  $\sharp_{TA} = \phi \circ (\sharp_A)_*$  with  $\phi$  defined by (2.4).

Furthermore, define a bracket of cross sections of  $\pi_*$  by putting

$$(2.11) \quad [a_\alpha^V, a_\beta^V]_{TA} = 0, \quad [a_\alpha^C, a_\beta^V]_{TA} = [a_\alpha, a_\beta]_A^V, \quad [a_\alpha^C, a_\beta^C]_{TA} = [a_\alpha, a_\beta]_A^C,$$

which yields brackets of the elements of the basis of cross sections of  $TA \rightarrow TM$ , and by extending (2.11) to arbitrary cross sections via the axioms of a Lie

algebroid. One can check that the results of (2.11) hold for the lifts of arbitrary cross sections of  $A$  and this justifies the independence of the bracket of the choice of the basis  $a_\alpha$ . Then, the axioms of a Lie algebroid hold for the basic cross sections  $(c_\alpha, \partial/\partial\xi^\alpha)$ , whence, the axioms also hold for any cross sections.

Thus, we have obtained a well defined structure of a Lie algebroid on the bundle  $\pi_* : TA \rightarrow TM$ . This Lie algebroid is called the *tangent Lie algebroid* of  $A$  [16].

Now, we prove the announced result

**Proposition 2.1.** *If the subalgebroid  $B \subseteq A$  is a foliation of  $A$  over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ , then the tangent Lie algebroid  $TB$  is a foliation of the Lie algebroid  $TA$  over  $(TM, T\mathcal{F})$ .*

*Proof.* We may use adapted local coordinates  $(x^a, y^u)$  on  $M$ , such that  $\mathcal{F}$  has the local equations  $x^a = 0$ , and local bases  $(a_h) \equiv (b_\alpha, q_\kappa)$  of  $\Gamma A$  such that  $(b_\alpha)$  is a local basis of  $\Gamma B$  and  $(q_\kappa)$  are  $B$ -foliated cross sections of  $A$ . If we use formulas (2.8), (2.10), (2.11), we see that the complete and vertical lifts of cross sections of  $B \subseteq A$  to  $TA$  and to  $TB$  coincide, and that the bracket and anchor of  $TB$  are the restrictions of the bracket and anchor of  $TA$  to  $TB \subseteq TA$ . Therefore,  $TB$  is a Lie subalgebroid of  $TA$  over  $TM$ .

Furthermore, on  $TM$  we have local coordinates  $(x^a, y^u, \dot{x}^a, \dot{y}^u)$  and (2.2) shows that  $x^a = \text{const.}, \dot{x}^a = \text{const.}$  are the equations of a foliation  $T\mathcal{F}$  of the manifold  $TM$  that consists of the tangent vectors of the leaves of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Since  $\sharp_{TB} = \phi \circ (\sharp_B)_*$  where  $\phi$  is the flip diffeomorphism and  $\text{im } \sharp_B = T\mathcal{F}$ , we get  $\text{im } \sharp_{TB} = TT\mathcal{F}$ .

Finally, on one hand,  $(b_\alpha^C, b_\alpha^V)$  is a local basis of cross sections of  $TB$  and, on the other hand, using (2.11), it is easy to check that  $(q_\kappa^C, q_\kappa^V)$  are  $TB$ -foliated, local cross sections of  $TA \rightarrow TM$ . Therefore, since  $(b_\alpha^C, q_\kappa^C, b_\alpha^V, q_\kappa^V)$  is a local basis of cross sections of  $TA \rightarrow TM$ , the pair  $(TA, TB)$  satisfies the foliated-generation condition.  $\square$

### 3 The dual Poisson structure

It is well known that a Lie algebroid structure on the vector bundle  $\pi : E \rightarrow M$  is equivalent with a specific Poisson structure on the total space of the dual bundle  $E^*$ , called the *dual Poisson structure*, defined by the following brackets of basic and fiber-linear functions:

$$(3.1) \quad \{f_1 \circ \pi, f_2 \circ \pi\} = 0, \quad \{f \circ \pi, l_s\} = -((\sharp_E s)f) \circ \pi, \quad \{l_{s_1}, l_{s_2}\} = l_{[s_1, s_2]_E},$$

where  $f, f_1, f_2 \in C^\infty(M)$ ,  $s, s_1, s_2 \in \Gamma E$  and  $l_s$  is the evaluation of the fiber of  $E^*$  on  $s$ . If  $x^a$  are local coordinates on  $M$  and  $\eta_h$  are the fiber-coordinates on  $E^*$  with respect to the dual of a local basis  $(e_h)$  of cross sections of  $E$ , then the corresponding Poisson bivector field is

$$(3.2) \quad \Pi = \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{hk}^l \eta_l \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_h} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_k} + \alpha_h^a \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_h} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a},$$

where the coefficients  $\alpha$  are defined by the expressions

$$(3.3) \quad \sharp_E(e_h) = \alpha_h^a \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a}, \quad [e_h, e_k]_E = \alpha_{hk}^l e_l.$$

Conversely, formulas (3.2), (3.3) produce an anchor  $\sharp_E$  and a bracket  $[, ]_E$  and the Poisson condition  $[\Pi, \Pi] = 0$  implies the Lie algebroid axioms.

A Poisson structure of the form (3.2) will be called a fiber-linear structure, although this name is not totally appropriate since it does not describe the form of the second term of (3.2). The characteristic property of a bivector field of the form (3.2) is that the Poisson bracket of two fiber-polynomials of degrees  $h, k$  is a fiber-polynomial of degree  $h + k - 1$ .

In this section we establish properties of the dual Poisson structure of a foliated Lie algebroid.

**Proposition 3.1.** *Let  $E$  be a foliated vector bundle over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  with the dual bundle  $E^*$ , which has the covering foliation  $\mathcal{F}^{E^*}$  of  $\mathcal{F}$ . A transversal-Lie algebroid structure on  $E$  is equivalent with a fiber-linear Poisson algebra structure on the space of  $\mathcal{F}^{E^*}$ -foliated functions on  $E^*$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $(x^a, y^u)$  be  $\mathcal{F}$ -adapted local coordinates on  $M$  and  $(e_h)$  be a local foliated basis of  $E$ . Then, the space of foliated functions  $C_{fol}^\infty(E^*, \mathcal{F}^{E^*})$  is locally spanned by  $(x^a, \eta_h)$  and we get the Poisson algebra structure required by the proposition using formulas (3.1) for  $f, f_1, f_2 \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$ ,  $s, s_1, s_2 \in \Gamma_{fol} E$ . Conversely, the Poisson structure (3.1) on  $C_{fol}^\infty(E^*, \mathcal{F}^{E^*})$  produces a transversal-Lie algebroid on  $E$  in the same way as in the case of a Lie algebroid.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.2.** *A foliated Lie algebroid  $(A, B)$  over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  is equivalent with a couple  $(E^*, \Lambda)$ , where  $E^*$  is a vector subbundle of  $A^*$  endowed with a foliated structure and the corresponding  $\mathcal{F}$ -covering foliation  $\mathcal{F}^{E^*}$ , and  $\Lambda$  is a fiber-linear Poisson structure on the manifold  $A^*$  with the following properties:*

- 1)  $\sharp_\Lambda(\text{ann}TE^*) = T\mathcal{F}^{E^*}$ ,
- 2)  $\Lambda|_{E^*}$  induces a well defined Poisson algebra structure on  $C_{fol}^\infty(E^*, \mathcal{F}^{E^*})$ ,
- 3) the total bundle manifold of  $A^*/E^*$  has a Poisson structure  $P$  such that the projection  $(A^*, \Lambda) \rightarrow (A^*/E^*, P)$  is a Poisson mapping.

*Proof.* For the foliated Lie algebroid  $(A, B)$ , we take  $E^* = \text{ann}B$ , which is foliated since its dual bundle is  $E = A/B$  and it is foliated. Furthermore, we take the dual Poisson structure  $\Lambda$  of the Lie algebroid  $A$ .

In order to write down the Poisson bivector field  $\Lambda$  we define convenient local coordinates on the manifold  $A^*$  as follows. We take  $\mathcal{F}$ -adapted local coordinates  $(x^a, y^u)$  on  $M$ , we choose a splitting

$$(3.4) \quad A = B \oplus C,$$

and we take a local basis of  $\Gamma A$  that consists of the basis  $b_h$  of  $\Gamma B$  and the basis  $a_q$  of  $\Gamma C$  where  $a_q$  are foliated cross sections (see Lemma 1.1). For  $A^*$ , we have the dual bases  $(b^{*h}, a^{*q})$  and corresponding fiber coordinates  $(\eta_h, \zeta_q)$ .

Since  $(A, B)$  is a foliated Lie algebroid, the anchor and bracket have the following local expression

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{aligned} \sharp_A(b_h) &= \beta_h^u \frac{\partial}{\partial y^u}, \quad \sharp_A(a_q) = \alpha_q^a \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} + \alpha_q^u \frac{\partial}{\partial y^u} \quad (\text{rank}(\beta_h^u) = \dim \mathcal{F}), \\ [b_h, b_k]_A &= \sum \beta_{hk}^l b_l, \quad [b_h, a_q]_A = \gamma_{hq}^l b_l, \quad [a_p, a_q]_A = \alpha_{pq}^l b_l + \alpha_{pq}^s a_s, \end{aligned}$$

where  $\alpha_q^a, \alpha_{pq}^s$  are foliated functions, i.e., locally, these are functions on the coordinates  $x^a$ .

Then, the general formula (3.2) implies

$$(3.6) \quad \begin{aligned} \Lambda &= \frac{1}{2} \beta_{hk}^l \eta_l \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_h} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_k} + \gamma_{hq}^l \eta_l \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_h} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_q} + \frac{1}{2} (\alpha_{pq}^l \eta_l + \alpha_{pq}^s \zeta_s) \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_p} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_q} \\ &\quad + \alpha_q^a \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_q} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} + \beta_h^u \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_h} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial y^u} + \alpha_q^u \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_q} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial y^u}. \end{aligned}$$

The total space of the subbundle  $E^* \subseteq A^*$  has the local equations  $\eta_h = 0$ , whence

$$\sharp_\Lambda(\text{ann } TE^*) = \text{span}\{i(d\eta_h)\Lambda|_{\eta^h=0}\} = \text{span}\{\beta_h^u \frac{\partial}{\partial y^u}\} = T\mathcal{F}^{E^*},$$

which is property 1).

The space  $C_{fol}^\infty(E^*, \mathcal{F}^{E^*})$  is locally generated by  $x^a, \zeta_q$  (mod.  $\eta_h = 0$ ) and a function of local expression  $f(x^a, \zeta_q)$  extends to a function of local expression  $\tilde{f}(x^a, \zeta_q, \eta_h)$  in a neighborhood of  $E^*$  in  $A^*$ . Formula (3.6) restricted to  $\eta_h = 0$  shows that, for  $f_1, f_2 \in C_{fol}^\infty(E^*, \mathcal{F}^{E^*})$ ,  $\Lambda|_{E^*}(d\tilde{f}_1, d\tilde{f}_2)$  depends only on  $f_1, f_2$  and that

$$\{x^a, x^b\}_{\Lambda|_{E^*}} = 0, \quad \{\zeta_q, x^a\}_{\Lambda|_{E^*}} = \alpha_q^a(x^b), \quad \{\zeta_p, \zeta_q\}_{\Lambda|_{E^*}} = \alpha_{pq}^s(x^b)\zeta_s.$$

Therefore,  $\Lambda$  satisfies property 2).

Since  $A^*/E^* \approx B^*$ , we may use as local coordinates on the manifold  $A^*/E^*$  the coordinates  $(x^a, y^u, \eta_h)$ . Then,

$$(3.7) \quad P = \frac{1}{2} \beta_{hk}^l \eta_l \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_h} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_k} + \beta_h^u \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_h} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial y^u}$$

is a bivector field on  $A^*/E^*$ , which is Poisson because it has the same expression as the dual Poisson structure of the Lie algebroid  $B$ . Property 3) is obviously satisfied.

Conversely, let  $A$  be a vector bundle over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  such that there exists a foliated subbundle  $E^*$  of the dual bundle  $A^*$  and a fiber-linear Poisson bivector field  $\Lambda$  of  $A^*$  with the properties 1), 2), 3). Define the subbundle  $B = \text{ann}E^* \subseteq A$  and take a decomposition  $A = B \oplus C$  and local bases of cross sections  $b_h \in B, a_q \in C$ . Moreover,  $C \approx A/B \approx E = E^{**}$  is an  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated bundle and  $a_q$  may be assumed to be  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated cross sections. The corresponding local coordinates

$(x^a, y^u, \eta_h, \zeta_q)$  on  $A^*$  are similar to those used in (3.6) and, a priori,  $\Lambda$  is of the form

$$\begin{aligned}\Lambda = & \frac{1}{2}(\beta_{hk}^l \eta_l + \beta_{hk}^s \zeta_s) \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_h} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_k} + (\gamma_{hq}^l \eta_l + \gamma_{hq}^s \zeta_s) \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_h} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_q} \\ & + \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_{pq}^l \eta_l + \alpha_{pq}^s \zeta_s) \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_p} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_q} + \alpha_q^a \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_q} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} + \beta_h^u \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_h} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial y^u} \\ & + \alpha_q^u \frac{\partial}{\partial \zeta_q} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial y^u} + \lambda_h^a \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_h} \wedge \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a}.\end{aligned}$$

If we put  $\eta_h = 0$  and compute  $i(d\eta_h)\Lambda$  we see that property 1) implies

$$\beta_{hk}^s = 0, \gamma_{hq}^s = 0, \lambda_h^a = 0, \text{rank}(\beta_h^u) = \dim \mathcal{F}.$$

Furthermore, property 2) implies local expressions  $\alpha_q^a = \alpha_q^a(x^b)$ ,  $\alpha_{pq}^s = \alpha_{pq}^s(x^b)$ . Finally, the projection  $(A^* \rightarrow A^*/E^*)$ -related bivector field  $P$  of property 3) is uniquely defined by  $\Lambda$ ; it must be given by (3.7) and it satisfies the Poisson condition. Therefore,  $\Lambda$  reduces to the form (3.6) and the corresponding Lie algebroid structure of  $A$  is given by formulas (3.5). Accordingly, the pair  $(A, B)$  is a foliated Lie algebroid. (The foliated-generation condition is implied by the fact that  $[b_h, a_q] \in B$ .)  $\square$

A. Vaintrob [21] gave an interpretation of the dual Poisson structure (3.2) as an odd, homological super-vector field, which led to important results on Lie algebroids seen as homological super-vector fields. We shall indicate the properties of this field in the foliated case.

The *parity-changed vector bundle* of  $A^*$  (in our case  $A^*$  is the dual of a Lie algebroid, but, the definition applies to any vector bundle) is a supermanifold  $\Pi A^*$ , with local even coordinates  $x^i$  and local odd coordinates  $\bar{\eta}^\alpha$  associated to local,  $A^*$ -trivializing, coordinate neighborhoods  $U$  on  $M$ , with the following local transition functions:

$$\tilde{x}^i = \tilde{x}^i(x^j), \tilde{\bar{\eta}}^\alpha = b_\beta^\alpha \bar{\eta}^\beta,$$

where the first equations are the same as the transition functions of the local coordinates on  $M$  and the matrix  $(b_\beta^\alpha)$  is defined by a change of local bases of cross sections of  $A$ ,  $a_\beta = b_\beta^\alpha \tilde{a}_\alpha$ . The supertangent bundle  $T\Pi A^*$  has the local bases  $(\partial/\partial x^i, \partial/\partial \bar{\eta}^\alpha)$  with the local transition functions

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \tilde{x}^i} = \frac{\partial x^j}{\partial \tilde{x}^i} \frac{\partial}{\partial x^j}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\eta}^\beta} = b_\beta^\alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\eta}^\alpha}.$$

These transition functions show that the correspondence

$$x^i \mapsto x^i, \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i} \mapsto \frac{\partial}{\partial x^i}, \eta_\alpha \mapsto \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\eta}^\alpha}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_\alpha} \mapsto \bar{\eta}^\alpha$$

produces a well defined mapping of the fiber-wise polynomial multivector fields on the manifold  $A^*$  to super-multivector fields on  $\Pi A^*$ . In particular, the bivector field  $\Pi$  defined by (3.2) is send to Vaintrob's super-vector field

$$(3.8) \quad V = \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{hk}^l \bar{\eta}^h \bar{\eta}^k \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\eta}^l} + \alpha_h^a \bar{\eta}^h \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a}$$

and the Poisson condition  $[\Pi, \Pi] = 0$  becomes the homology condition  $[V, V] = 0$ . To put terminology in agreement with the theory of Lie algebroids, the super-vector field  $V$  will be called *transitive* if the  $M$ -rank  $\rho$  of  $V$  defined by  $\rho = \text{rank}(\alpha_h^a)$  is equal to the dimension of  $M$ .

Furthermore, if  $M$  is endowed with the foliation  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $A$  has a subbundle  $B$ , we have coordinates  $(x^a, y^u)$  and bases  $(b_h, a_q)$  like in the proof of Proposition 3.2, which yield coordinates  $(x^a, y^u, \bar{\eta}^h, \bar{\zeta}^q)$  of  $\Pi A^*$  with transition functions of the form

$$(3.9) \quad \tilde{x}^a = \tilde{x}^a(x^b), \tilde{y}^u = \tilde{y}^u(x^a, y^v), \tilde{\bar{\eta}}^h = b_k^h \bar{\eta}^k + b_q^h \bar{\zeta}^q, \tilde{\bar{\zeta}}^q = b_p^q \bar{\zeta}^p.$$

where the various matrices  $b$  come from a change of the local basis. The transition functions (3.9) show that  $\Pi A^*$  is endowed with the superfoliation

$$\bar{\mathcal{F}} = \text{span} \left\{ \frac{\partial}{\partial y^u}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\eta}^h} \right\}.$$

Then, if we consider the vector bundle  $E = A/B$ , we have  $E^* = \text{ann } B \subseteq A^*$  and  $\Pi(A^*/E^*)$  may be seen as the submanifold of  $\Pi A^*$  that has the local equations  $\bar{\zeta}^q = 0$ . On the other hand,  $\Pi E^*$  is a supermanifold with the local coordinates  $(x^a, y^u, \bar{\zeta}^q)$  and there exists a natural projection  $\psi : \Pi A^* \rightarrow \Pi E^*$  locally defined by

$$(x^a, y^u, \bar{\zeta}^q, \bar{\eta}^h) \mapsto (x^a, y^u, \bar{\zeta}^q).$$

In Vaintrob's terminology a super-vector field on  $\Pi A^*$  that corresponds to a bivector field on  $A^*$  is said to be of degree 1. In our case, a super-vector field of degree 1 has the form

$$(3.10) \quad W = \frac{1}{2} \beta_{hk}^l \bar{\eta}^h \bar{\eta}^k \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\eta}^l} + \frac{1}{2} \beta_{hk}^s \bar{\eta}^h \bar{\eta}^k \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\zeta}^s} + \gamma_{hq}^l \bar{\eta}^h \bar{\zeta}^q \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\eta}^l} \\ + \gamma_{hq}^s \bar{\eta}^h \bar{\zeta}^q \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\zeta}^s} + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{pq}^l \bar{\zeta}^p \bar{\zeta}^q \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\eta}^l} + \frac{1}{2} \alpha_{pq}^s \bar{\zeta}^p \bar{\zeta}^q \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\zeta}^s} \\ + \alpha_q^a \bar{\zeta}^q \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a} + \beta_h^u \bar{\eta}^h \frac{\partial}{\partial y^u} + \alpha_q^u \bar{\zeta}^q \frac{\partial}{\partial y^u} + \lambda_h^a \bar{\eta}^h \frac{\partial}{\partial x^a}.$$

**Proposition 3.3.** *A foliated Lie algebroid  $(A, B)$  over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  is equivalent with a couple  $(E^*, W)$ , where  $E^*$  is an  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated vector subbundle of  $A^*$  and  $W$  is a homological super-vector field of degree 1 on  $\Pi A^*$  such that*

- i)  *$W$  is foliated (projectable) with respect to the super-foliation  $\bar{\mathcal{F}}$  of  $\Pi A^*$  associated to the pair  $(\mathcal{F}, B)$ ,*
- ii)  *$W|_{\Pi(A^*/E^*)} \in T\bar{\mathcal{F}} \cap T\Pi(A^*/E^*)$  and is a homological super-vector field of degree 1 on  $\Pi(A^*/E^*)$ , transitive over the leaves of  $\mathcal{F}$ .*

*Proof.* Formula (3.6) shows that the Vaintrob super-vector field  $W$  of a foliated Lie algebroid  $(A, B)$  is a homological super-vector field (3.10) that satisfies the conditions

$$(3.11) \quad \begin{aligned} \gamma_{hq}^s &= 0, \alpha_{pq}^s = \alpha_{pq}^s(x^b), \alpha_q^a = \alpha_q^a(x^b), \\ \lambda_h^a &= 0, \beta_{hk}^s = 0, \text{rank}(\beta_h^u) = \dim \mathcal{F}, \end{aligned}$$

and where the super-vector field

$$W|_{\Pi(A^*/E^*)} = \frac{1}{2} \beta_{hk}^l \bar{\eta}^h \bar{\eta}^k \frac{\partial}{\partial \bar{\eta}^l} + \beta_h^u \bar{\eta}^h \frac{\partial}{\partial y^u} \in T\bar{\mathcal{F}} \cap T\Pi(A^*/E^*)$$

is a homological super-vector field on  $\Pi(A^*/E^*)$ . The condition  $\text{rank}(\beta_h^u) = \dim \mathcal{F}$  is what we meant by the transitivity of  $W$  over the leaves of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Conversely, if we start with the data  $(A, E^*, W)$ ,  $A$ , which has the Lie algebroid structure of Vaintrob super-vector field  $W$ , has the subbundle  $B = \text{ann } E^*$  and  $\Pi A^*$  has the superfoliation  $\bar{\mathcal{F}}$ . Then,  $W$  may be represented under the form (3.10). Condition i), which means that the terms of (3.10) that contain  $(\partial/\partial x^a, \partial/\partial \bar{\zeta}^q)$  depend on the coordinates  $(x^a, \bar{\zeta}^q)$  only, implies the first four conditions (3.11) and condition ii) ensures the fact that  $B$ , with the Lie algebroid structure of Vaintrob super-vector field  $W|_{\Pi(A^*/E^*)}$ , is a foliation of  $A$ .  $\square$

## 4 Cohomology and deformations

The cohomology  $H^*(A)$  of a Lie algebroid  $A$  is that of the differential graded algebra  $(\Omega(A) = \Gamma \wedge A^*, d_A)$  of  $A$ -forms where, if  $\lambda \in \Omega^k(A)$ , then

$$(4.1) \quad \begin{aligned} d_A \lambda(s_1, \dots, s_{k+1}) &= \sum_{j=1}^{k+1} (-1)^{j+1} \sharp_A s_j (\lambda(s_1, \dots, s_{j-1}, s_{j+1}, \dots, s_{k+1})) \\ &+ \sum_{j < l-1}^{k+1} (-1)^{j+l} \lambda([s_j, s_l]_A, s_1, \dots, s_{j-1}, s_{j+1}, \dots, s_{l-1}, s_{l+1}, \dots, s_{k+1}). \end{aligned}$$

The anchor of the Lie algebroid produces a homomorphism of differential graded algebras  $\sharp'_A : (\Omega(M), d) \rightarrow (\Omega(A), d_A)$  defined by

$$(\sharp' \theta)(s_1, \dots, s_k) = \theta(\sharp s_1, \dots, \sharp s_k), \quad \theta \in \Omega^k(M)$$

with the corresponding cohomology homomorphism  $\sharp_A^* : H_{deRham}^*(M) \rightarrow H^*(A)$ .

The general pattern of the cohomology of a foliated Lie algebroid  $(A, B)$  over a foliated base manifold  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  is the same like that of a foliated manifold [23], which is why we only sketch it briefly here. Using the decomposition  $A = B \oplus C$  and the bases  $(b_h, a_l)$ ,  $(b^{*h}, a^{*l})$  where  $b_h \in \Gamma B$ ,  $a_l \in \Gamma C$  and  $a_l$  are  $B$ -foliated, we get a bigrading of the  $A$ -forms such that a form of type (bi-degree)  $(s, r)$  ( $s$  is the  $C$ -grade and  $r$  is the  $B$ -grade) has the local expression

$$(4.2) \quad \lambda = \frac{1}{s!r!} \lambda_{l_1 \dots l_s h_1 \dots h_r} (x^a, y^u) a^{*l_1} \wedge \dots \wedge a^{*l_s} \wedge b^{*h_1} \wedge \dots \wedge b^{*h_r}.$$

We will denote by  $\Omega^{s,r}(A)$  the space of  $A$ -forms of type  $(s, r)$ .

Since  $B$  is bracket closed, one has  $d_A a^{*l}(b_h, b_k) = 0$  and we see that  $d_A \lambda$  has only components of the type  $(s+1, r), (s, r+1), (s+2, r-1)$ . Hence there exists a decomposition

$$(4.3) \quad d_A = d'_A + d''_A + \partial_A,$$

where the terms are differential operators of types  $(1, 0), (0, 1), (2, -1)$ , respectively. The property  $d_A^2 = 0$  is equivalent with

$$(4.4) \quad \begin{aligned} (d''_A)^2 &= 0, d'_A d''_A + d''_A d'_A = 0, (\partial_A)^2 = 0, \\ d'_A \partial_A + \partial_A d'_A &= 0, (d'_A)^2 + d''_A \partial_A + \partial_A d''_A = 0. \end{aligned}$$

The cohomology of  $(\Omega^{\bullet}(A), d''_A)$  is the cohomology of the Lie algebroid  $B$ . On the other hand, an  $A$ -form  $\lambda$  is said to be *B-foliated* if it is of type  $(s, 0)$  and its local components  $\lambda_{l_1, \dots, l_s}$  are  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated functions (this is an invariant condition because the bases  $(a_l)$  are  $B$ -foliated and have  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated transition functions). The operator  $d'_A$  induces a cohomology of the  $B$ -foliated forms called the *basic cohomology*. Formulas (4.4) show that  $(\Omega(A), d_A)$  is a semi-positive double cochain complex [23], hence, it produces a spectral sequence that connects among the previously mentioned cohomologies. Another component of the pattern is the truncated cohomology discussed in the Appendix of [26].

**Example 4.1.** In Example 1.2 we showed that for any Lie algebroid  $A$  the pair  $(J^1 A, \text{Hom}(TM, A))$  is a foliated Lie algebroid over the foliation of the basis  $M$  by points, therefore, its cohomology has the pattern described above. On the other hand, the cohomology of  $J^1 A$  may be interpreted as the *1-differentiable cohomology* of  $A$  in the sense of Lichnerowicz, who studied the 1-differentiable cohomology of many infinite dimensional Lie algebras on manifolds (e.g., see [12, 13] and the references therein; the case studied in [13] is that of the cotangent Lie algebroid of a Poisson manifold). This cohomology is defined by  $k$ -cochains  $\lambda \in \text{Hom}_{\mathbb{R}}(\Gamma(\wedge^k A), C^\infty(M))$ , which are differential operators of order 1 in each argument, and by the differential  $d$  defined by formula (4.1). Since a differential operator of order 1 is the composition of a  $C^\infty(M)$ -linear morphism by the first jet mapping  $j^1$ , the 1-differentiable cochains may be identified with usual cochains of the Lie algebroid  $J^1 A$ . Furthermore, since  $[j^1 a_1, j^1 a_2]_{J^1 A} = j^1 [a_1, a_2]_A$  ( $a_1, a_2 \in \Gamma A$ ) [5],  $d$  for 1-differentiable cochains may be identified with  $d_{J^1 A}$ . Hence,  $H_{1-diff}^k(A) \approx H^k(J^1 A)$  as claimed. A complementary subbundle  $C$  of the foliation  $\text{Hom}(TM, A)$  is given by the image of a splitting  $\sigma : A \rightarrow J^1 A$  of the exact sequence (1.5) and the type decomposition (4.2) corresponds to the type decomposition used by Lichnerowicz.

Like in the case of a foliation [22], we get

**Proposition 4.1.** (The  $d''_A$ -Poincaré Lemma) *Let  $(A, B)$  be a minimally foliated Lie algebroid. For any local  $A$ -form  $\lambda$  of type  $(u, v)$  ( $v > 0$ ) such that  $d''_A \lambda = 0$ , one has  $\lambda = d''_A \mu$  where  $\mu$  is a local form of type  $(u, v-1)$ .*

*Proof.* We may proceed by induction on  $k$ , where  $k$  is the number defined by the condition that the local expression of  $\lambda$  does not contain the elements  $a^{*k+1}, \dots, a^{*q}$  ( $q = \text{rank } A - \text{rank } B$ ) of the basis used in (4.2).

Since we are in the case of a minimally foliated algebroid,  $\sharp_B : B \rightarrow T\mathcal{F}$  is an isomorphism, which induces an isomorphism between the graded differential algebra  $(\Omega^0(A), d''_A)$  and the graded differential algebra of the  $\mathcal{F}$ -leaf-wise forms on  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ . Since the  $d''$ -Poincaré lemma holds for the latter [22, 23], it holds for the former as well, which justifies the conclusion for  $k = 0$ .

Now, we assume that the result holds for any  $k < h - 1$  ( $h = 1, \dots, q$ ) and take

$$\lambda = a^{*h} \wedge \mu + \theta$$

where  $\mu, \theta$  do not contain  $a^{*h}, \dots, a^{*q}$ . Since  $d''_A a^{*h} = 0$ ,  $d''_A \lambda = 0$  if and only if  $d''_A \mu = d''_A \theta = 0$ . Then, the induction hypothesis yields the local expressions  $\mu = d''_A \tau, \theta = d''_A \sigma$ , therefore,

$$\lambda = d''_A (-a^{*h} \wedge \tau + \sigma),$$

which means that the result also holds for  $k = h - 1$  and we are done.  $\square$

Obviously, the operator  $d''_A$  makes sense for  $V$ -valued  $A$ -forms, where  $V$  is any  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated vector bundle on  $M$ , and the  $d''$ -Poincaré lemma (Proposition 4.1) holds for such forms as well.

The following corollary is a standard result.

**Corollary 4.1.** *Let  $(A, B)$  be a minimally foliated Lie algebroid and  $V$  a foliated vector bundle over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ . Let  $\Phi^k$  be the sheaf of germs of  $B$ -foliated,  $V$ -valued  $A$ -forms. Then one has*

$$H^l(M, \Phi^k) \approx \frac{\ker(d''_A : \Omega^{k,l}(A) \otimes V \rightarrow \Omega^{k,l+1}(A) \otimes V)}{\text{im}(d''_A : \Omega^{k,l-1}(A) \otimes V \rightarrow \Omega^{k,l}(A) \otimes V)}.$$

**Remark 4.1.** In the terminology of [26], Proposition 4.1 is a relative Poincaré lemma. Therefore the sheaf-interpretation of the truncated cohomology given in [26] holds for minimally foliated Lie algebroids.

There exists a general construction of characteristic  $A$ -cohomology classes of a Lie algebroid [6], which mimics the Chern-Weil theory and goes as follows. Take a vector bundle  $V \rightarrow M$  of rank  $r$ . An  $A$ -connection (covariant derivative) on  $V$  is an  $\mathbb{R}$ -bilinear operator  $\nabla : \Gamma A \times \Gamma V \rightarrow \Gamma V$  that is  $C^\infty(M)$ -linear in the first argument and satisfies the condition

$$\nabla_a(fv) = f\nabla_a v + ((\sharp_A a)f)v, \quad (a \in \Gamma A, v \in \Gamma V, f \in C^\infty(M)).$$

The curvature operator of  $\nabla$  is

$$R_\nabla(a_1, a_2) = \nabla_{a_1} \nabla_{a_2} - \nabla_{a_2} \nabla_{a_1} - \nabla_{[a_1, a_2]_A}.$$

$R_\nabla$  is  $C^\infty(M)$ -bilinear and may be seen as a  $V \otimes V^*$ -valued  $A$ -form of degree 2. Then,  $\forall \phi \in I^k(Gl(r, \mathbb{R}))$ , the space of real, ad-invariant, symmetric,

$k$ -multilinear functions on the Lie algebra  $gl(r, \mathbb{R})$ , the  $A$ -cohomology classes  $[\phi(R_\nabla)] = [\phi(R_\nabla, \dots, R_\nabla)] \in H^{2k}(A)$  are the  $A$ -principal characteristic classes of  $V$ . The characteristic classes are spanned by the classes  $[c_k(R_\nabla)]$ , where  $c_k$  is the sum of the principal minors of order  $k$  in  $\det(R_\nabla - \lambda Id)$ , and do not depend on the choice of the connection  $\nabla$ . Indeed, if  $\nabla^0, \nabla^1$  are two  $A$ -connections on  $V$ , Bott's proof [1, 6] gives

$$(4.5) \quad \phi(R_{\nabla_1}) - \phi(R_{\nabla^0}) = d_A \Delta(\nabla^0, \nabla^1) \phi,$$

where

$$(4.6) \quad \Delta(\nabla^0, \nabla^1) \phi = k \int_0^1 \phi(\nabla^1 - \nabla^0, \underbrace{R_{(t\nabla^1 + (1-t)\nabla^0)}, \dots, R_{(t\nabla^1 + (1-t)\nabla^0)}}_{(k-1)-\text{times}}) dt,$$

hence the cohomology classes defined by  $\phi(R_\nabla^0), \phi(R_\nabla^1)$  coincide. In particular, the use of an orthogonal  $A$ -connection (such that  $\nabla g = 0$  for a Euclidean metric  $g$  on  $A$ ) gives  $[c_{2h-1}(R_\nabla)] = 0$ . The classes  $[c_{2h}(R_\nabla)]$  are the  $A$ -Pontrjagin classes of  $V$ . For  $V = A$  one gets the principal characteristic classes of the Lie algebroid  $A$ .

In the case of a foliated Lie algebroid  $(A, B)$  over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  one can also mimic the construction of secondary characteristic classes. We define a *Bott A-connection* on a foliated vector bundle  $V$  by asking it to satisfy the condition  $\nabla_b v = 0, \forall b \in B, \forall v \in \Gamma_{fol}V$ . Bott  $A$ -connections always exist: take an arbitrary  $A$ -connection  $\nabla'$  on  $V$  and a decomposition  $A = B \oplus C$ , then, define

$$\nabla_{b+c}(fv) = ((\#B)f)v + \nabla'_c(fv) \quad (f \in C^\infty(M), v \in \Gamma_{fol}V).$$

The curvature of a Bott  $A$ -connection satisfies the property

$$(4.7) \quad R_\nabla(b_1, b_2)v = 0, \forall b_1, b_2 \in B, v \in V.$$

Indeed, due to  $C^\infty(M)$ -linearity with respect to  $v$ , it suffices to check the property for  $v \in \Gamma_{fol}V$ , which is trivial.

**Proposition 4.2.** (The Bott Vanishing Phenomenon) *If  $k > q = \text{rank } A - \text{rank } B, \forall \phi \in I^k(Gl(r, \mathbb{R}))$ , the characteristic class defined by  $\phi$  vanishes. Equivalently,  $\text{Pont}_A^h(V) = 0$  for  $h > 2q$ , where  $\text{Pont}_A^h(V)$  is the set of elements of total cohomological degree  $h$  generated by the  $A$ -Pontrjagin classes in the cohomology algebra  $H^*(A)$ .*

*Proof.* Property (4.7) shows that  $R_\nabla$  belongs to the ideal generated by  $\text{ann } B$ , hence, if  $k > q$ , the  $A$ -form obtained by the evaluation of  $\phi$  on  $R_\nabla$  is zero.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2.** *Let  $B$  be a Lie subalgebroid of the Lie algebroid  $A$ . If  $\text{Pont}_A^h(A/B) \neq 0$  for some  $h > 2(\text{rank } A - \text{rank } B)$ ,  $B$  is not a foliation of  $A$ .*

Now, if we take  $\phi \in I^{2h-1}(Gl(r, \mathbb{R}))$  with  $2h - 1 > q$ , formula (4.5) yields  $d_A(\Delta(\nabla^0, \nabla^1)\phi) = 0$  whenever  $\nabla^0$  is an orthogonal  $A$ -connection and  $\nabla^1$  is

a Bott  $A$ -connection on the  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated vector bundle  $V$ . The  $A$ -cohomology classes  $[\Delta(\nabla^0, \nabla^1)\phi] \in H^{4h-3}(A)$  are  *$A$ -secondary characteristic classes of  $V$* . Like in [11] one can prove that these classes do not depend on the choice of  $\nabla^0$  and remain unchanged if  $\nabla^1$  is subject to a deformation via Bott connections. In the case  $V = A/B$ , the construction provides secondary  $A$ -characteristic classes of the foliated Lie algebroid  $(A, B)$ .

**Proposition 4.3.** *The  $A$ -secondary characteristic classes of  $V$  are anchor images of de Rham-secondary characteristic classes.*

*Proof.* We may define the  $A$ -secondary characteristic classes by means of connections  $\nabla^0, \nabla^1$  given by  $\nabla_a^0 = \nabla_{\sharp_A a}^0, \nabla_a^1 = \nabla_{\sharp_A a}^1$ , where  $\nabla_0'$  is a usual orthogonal connection on  $V \rightarrow M$  and  $\nabla'^1$  is a Bott connection with respect to the foliated Lie algebroid  $(TM, T\mathcal{F})$ . Then, the conclusion holds at the level of forms.  $\square$

Deformations of foliations were studied by many authors [7, 8], etc., and one of the main results is that deformations produce infinitesimal deformations, which are cohomology classes of degree 1. Here, we extend this result to deformations of a foliation  $B$  of a Lie algebroid  $A$  over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ .

**Definition 4.1.** A *deformation* of the foliation  $B$  of  $A$  is a differentiable family of foliations  $B_t \subseteq A$  ( $0 \leq t \leq 1$ ) where  $B_0 = B$ , each  $B_t$  is regular and  $\mathcal{F}_t = \sharp_A(B_t)$  is a deformation of the foliation  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_0$ .

By differentiability of  $B_t$  we mean that each  $x \in M$  has a neighborhood  $U$  endowed with local cross sections  $(b_h(x, t))_{h=1}^p$  of  $A$  that are differentiable with respect to  $(x, t)$  and define a basis of the local cross sections of the subbundle  $B_t$  for all  $t \in [0, 1]$ . In particular, all the subbundles  $B_t$  have the same rank  $p$ .

The transition functions of the bases  $(b_h(x, t))$  are of the form

$$(4.8) \quad \tilde{b}_h(x, t) = \beta_h^k(x, t)b_k(x, t).$$

If we apply the operator  $(d/dt)_{t=0}$ , we see that the correspondence

$$\eta^h b_h \mapsto [\eta^h \frac{\partial b_h(x, t)}{\partial t}]_{t=0} \text{ mod. } B \quad (b_h = b_h(x, 0))$$

provides a well defined  $E = A/B$ -valued 1-B-form  $\Xi$ . The form  $\Xi$  will be called the *infinitesimal deformation form* and it has the following invariant expression

$$(4.9) \quad \Xi(b) = [\frac{\partial \tilde{b}(x, t)}{\partial t}]_{t=0} \text{ mod. } B$$

where  $\tilde{b}(x, t) \in \Gamma B_t$  is an extension of  $b \in B_x$ ; the result does not depend on the choice of the extension.

In what follows we identify the cochain complexes  $(\Omega(B), d_B)$  and  $(\Omega^{0\bullet}(A), d_A'')$  by using a complementary subbundle of  $B$  in  $A$ ; in particular,  $\Xi$  is also seen as a  $(0, 1)$ -form.

**Proposition 4.4.** *The infinitesimal deformation form  $\Xi$  is  $d''_A$ -closed.*

*Proof.* We begin by deriving a new expression of  $\Xi$ . Let us fix a subbundle  $C \subseteq A$  such that  $A = B_t \oplus C$  holds  $\forall t \in [0, \epsilon]$  (where  $\epsilon$  is small enough) and consider a local basis  $(b_h)$  of  $B$  and a local basis  $(c_s)$  of  $C$  consisting of  $B$ -foliated cross sections; this yields a foliated basis  $e_s = [c_s]_{\text{mod. } B}$  of  $A/B$ . Then, we have expressions

$$(4.10) \quad b_h(x, t) = \lambda_h^k(x, t)b_k + \mu_h^s(x, t)c_s, \quad \text{rank}(\lambda_h^k) = p,$$

therefore,  $B_t$  also has a basis of the form

$$(4.11) \quad b'_h(x, t) = b_h + \theta_h^s(x, t)c_s, \quad \theta_h^s(x, 0) = 0.$$

The dual cobases of the bases  $(b'_h(x, t), c_s)$  are given by

$$(4.12) \quad b'^{*h}(x, t) = b^{*h}(x, 0), \quad c^{*s}(x, t) = c^{*s} - \theta_h^s(x, t)b^{*h}$$

(check the duality conditions

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle b'^{*h}(x, t), b'_k(x, t) \rangle = \delta_k^h, \quad \langle c^{*s}(x, t), b'_k(x, t) \rangle = 0, \\ & \langle b'^{*h}(x, t), c_s \rangle = 0, \quad \langle c^{*s}(x, t), c_u(x, t) \rangle = \delta_u^s. \end{aligned}$$

From (4.11) and (4.12) we get

$$\left[ \frac{\partial b'_h}{\partial t} \right]_{t=0} = \frac{\partial \theta_h^s}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} e_s$$

and

$$(4.13) \quad \Xi = \frac{\partial \theta_h^s}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} b^{*h} \otimes e_s = -\frac{\partial c^{*s}(x, t)}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} \otimes e_s.$$

If we denote by  $\Xi^C$  the image of  $\Xi$  by the vector bundle isomorphism  $E \approx C$ , which following (4.13) means that

$$(4.14) \quad \Xi^C = -\frac{\partial c^{*s}(x, t)}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} \otimes c_s,$$

the conclusion of the proposition is equivalent with

$$d_A \Xi^C(b_h, b_k) = 0,$$

which we see to hold by means of the following calculation. From (4.14) and using the definition of  $d_A$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} d_A \Xi^C(b_h, b_k) &= -\frac{\partial [d_A c^{*s}(x, t)(b'_h(x, t), b'_k(x, t))]}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} c_s \\ &= \frac{\partial [c^{*s}(x, t)([b'_h(x, t), b'_k(x, t)]_A)]}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} c_s = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} (pr_C^t[b'_h(x, t), b'_k(x, t)]_A), \end{aligned}$$

where  $pr_C^t$  is the projection defined by the decomposition  $A = B_t \oplus C$ . Since  $B_t$  is closed by  $A$ -brackets, the final term of the previous calculation is equal to zero.  $\square$

Continuing to follow the analogy with foliation theory, we give the following definition.

**Definition 4.2.** A *trivial deformation* of the foliation  $B$  of the Lie algebroid  $A$  is a deformation  $B_t$  such that  $B_t = \Psi_t(B)$ , where  $(\Psi_t, \psi_t)$  ( $\psi_t : M \rightarrow M$ ) is a family of automorphisms of  $A$  of the form  $\Psi_t = \exp(ta)$ ,  $\psi_t = \exp(t\sharp_A a)$ ,  $a \in \Gamma A$ .

We recall that  $\Psi_t = \exp(ta)$  is a (local) 1-parameter group with respect to addition on  $t$ , which is characterized by the property [15]

$$(4.15) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \Big|_{t=0} (\exp(ta))a' = [a, a']_A, \quad \forall a, a' \in \Gamma A.$$

**Proposition 4.5.** *The infinitesimal deformation form  $\Xi$  of a trivial deformation is  $d''_A$ -exact.*

*Proof.* For a trivial deformation we may use the local bases

$$b_h(x, t) = \exp(ta)(b_h(\exp(-t\sharp_A a)(x), 0),$$

which implies

$$\frac{\partial b_h(x, t)}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=0} = [a, b_h]_A(x).$$

Now, using a decomposition  $a = \alpha^h b_h + \beta^s c_s$ , where  $(b_h, c_s)$  is the basis used in (4.10), the original definition of  $\Xi$  shows that the corresponding form  $\Xi^C$  is given by

$$(4.16) \quad \Xi^C(\eta^h b_h) = pr_C(\eta^h [a, b_h]_A) = -\eta^h (\sharp_A b_h(\beta^s)) c_s = -d''_A(pr_C a),$$

which is equivalent with the required result.  $\square$

**Definition 4.3.** Let  $(A, B)$  be a foliated Lie algebroid. Two deformations  $B_t, \bar{B}_t$  of  $B$  are *equivalent* if there exists a cross section  $a \in \Gamma A$  such that  $\bar{B}_t = \exp(ta)(B_t)$ , i.e., if they can be deduced from one another by composition with a trivial deformation.

Now, we get the following result:

**Proposition 4.6.** *Two equivalent deformations have  $d''_A$ -cohomologous infinitesimal deformation forms.*

*Proof.* For two equivalent deformations  $B_t, \bar{B}_t$  there are local bases related as follows

$$\bar{b}_h(x, t) = \exp(ta)(b_h(x, t)).$$

By applying the operator  $(\partial/\partial t)_{t=0}$  to this relation and using the computation (4.16) we get the following relation between the corresponding infinitesimal deformation forms

$$\bar{\Xi}^C = \Xi^C - d''_A(pr_C a).$$

$\square$

The cohomology class  $[\Xi] \in H^1(B; A/B)$  (the first cohomology space of  $A/B$ -valued  $B$ -forms) is the *infinitesimal deformation up to equivalence* of the foliation  $B$  of the Lie algebroid  $A$ .

## 5 Integration of foliated Lie algebroids

In this section we briefly discuss the integrability of a foliated Lie algebroid.

**Definition 5.1.** Let  $l, r : G \rightrightarrows M$  be a Lie groupoid ( $l, r$  are the target (left) and source (right) projections, respectively), where the unit manifold  $M$  is endowed with a foliation  $\mathcal{F}$ . We call  $G$  an  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated Lie groupoid if it is endowed with a foliation  $\mathcal{G}$  that has the following properties:

- (i) the leaves of  $\mathcal{G}$  are contained in the left fibers,
- (ii)  $\mathcal{G}$  is invariant by left translations,
- (iii) the right projection  $r : (G, \mathcal{G}) \rightarrow (M, \mathcal{F})$  is a foliated, leaf-wise submersion.

It is easy to get the following integrability result.

**Proposition 5.1.** *Let  $l, r : (G, \mathcal{G}) \rightrightarrows (M, \mathcal{F})$  be a foliated Lie groupoid. Then, the Lie algebroid  $A(G)$  has a natural structure of a foliated Lie algebroid. Conversely, if  $(A, B)$  is a foliated Lie algebroid and  $A$  is integrable by the left-fiber connected Lie groupoid  $G$ , then  $G$  has a natural foliation  $\mathcal{G}$  that makes  $G$  into a foliated Lie groupoid such that the restriction to the leaves of  $\mathcal{G}$  of the construction of  $A(G)$  produces a Lie subalgebroid that is isomorphic to  $B$ .*

*Proof.* If we start with the foliated groupoid  $(G, \mathcal{G})$  and construct the Lie algebroid  $A(G)$  by means of the left-invariant vector fields, the invariant vector fields that are tangent to the leaves of  $\mathcal{G}$  produce a Lie subalgebroid  $B \subseteq A(G)$ .

Furthermore, if we denote by  $T^l G$  the tangent bundle to the  $l$ -fibers we get the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow T\mathcal{G} \rightarrow T^l G \rightarrow T^l G / T\mathcal{G} \rightarrow 0,$$

where the quotient is a  $\mathcal{G}$ -foliated bundle. The foliated cross sections of  $T^l G$  are the infinitesimal automorphisms of  $T\mathcal{G}$  and (like for any foliation) span the bundle  $T^l G$ . If the previous sequence is quotientized by left translations we get the exact sequence

$$0 \rightarrow B \rightarrow A(G) \rightarrow A(G)/B \rightarrow 0$$

and we see that the pair  $(A(G), B)$  satisfies the foliated generation condition. Then, the anchor of  $A(G)$  is induced by the differential  $r_*$  of the right projection and its restriction to  $B$  is onto  $T\mathcal{F}$  because of condition (iii) of Definition 5.1. Therefore,  $(A(G), B)$  is a foliated Lie algebroid over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ .

Conversely, if we start with a foliated Lie algebroid  $(A, B)$  over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  and  $A = A(G)$  for the Lie groupoid  $G$ , we get the foliation  $\mathcal{G}$  by asking it to be tangent to the left invariant vector fields that produce cross sections of  $B$  (see Lemma 2.1 of [17]). Then, the conditions required in Definition 5.1 obviously

hold. In particular, condition (iii) follows from the foliated-generation condition of  $(A, B)$  together with the fact that  $\text{im } \sharp_B = T\mathcal{F}$ .  $\square$

## 6 Foliated Courant algebroids

We do not intend to develop a theory of foliated Courant algebroid, but, we would like to clarify how such a notion should be defined. We refer to [14] for the general theory of Courant algebroids.

Definition 1.1 of a transversal-Lie algebroid suggests the following natural, analogous definition.

**Definition 6.1.** A *transversal-Courant algebroid* over the foliated manifold  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  is a foliated vector bundle  $E \rightarrow M$  endowed with a symmetric, non degenerate, foliated, inner product  $g \in \Gamma_{fol} \odot^2 E^*$ , with a foliated morphism  $\sharp_E : E \rightarrow \nu\mathcal{F}$  called the anchor and a skew-symmetric bracket  $[ , ]_E : \Gamma_{fol}E \times \Gamma_{fol}E \rightarrow \Gamma_{fol}E$ , such that the following conditions are satisfied:

- 1)  $\sharp_E[e_1, e_2]_E = [\sharp_E e_1, \sharp_E e_2]_{\nu\mathcal{F}}$ ,
- 2)  $\text{im}(\sharp_g \circ {}^t \sharp_E) \subseteq \ker \sharp_E$ ,
- 3)  $\sum_{Cycl} [[e_1, e_2]_E, e_3]_E = (1/3)\partial \sum_{Cycl} g([e_1, e_2]_E, e_3), \partial f = (1/2)\sharp_g({}^t \sharp_E df)$ ,
- 4)  $[e_1, fe_2]_E = f[e_1, e_2]_E + ((\sharp_E e_1)f)e_2 - g(e_1, e_2)\partial f$ ,
- 5)  $(\sharp_E e)(g(e_1, e_2)) = g([e, e_1]_E + \partial g(e, e_1), e_2) + g(e_1, [e, e_2]_E + \partial g(e, e_2))$ .

In these conditions,  $e, e_1, e_2, e_3 \in \Gamma_{fol}E$ ,  $f \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$  and  $t$  denotes transposition.

Using local, foliated,  $g$ -canonical bases, it is easy to see that  ${}^t \sharp_E(\lambda) \in \Gamma_{fol}E^*$ ,  $\forall \lambda \in \Gamma_{fol}(ann T\mathcal{F})$ . In particular,  $\forall f \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$ ,  $\partial f \in \Gamma_{fol}E$ .

Like for the Courant algebroids, which are obtained if  $\mathcal{F}$  is the foliation of  $M$  by points, we will say that the transversal-Courant algebroid  $E$  is *transitive* if  $\sharp_E$  is surjective and it is *exact* if it is transitive and  $\text{rank } E = 2\text{rank } \nu\mathcal{F}$ . The reason for this name is that  $E$  is exact if and only if the sequence of vector bundles

$$(6.1) \quad 0 \longrightarrow ann T\mathcal{F} \xrightarrow{\sharp_{(E,g)}} E \xrightarrow{\sharp_E} \nu\mathcal{F} \longrightarrow 0,$$

where  $\sharp_{(E,g)} = \sharp_g \circ {}^t \sharp_E$  (therefore,  $\partial f = \sharp_{(E,g)} df$ ) is exact. (This follows like for Courant algebroids, e.g., Section 3 of [24].)

**Remark 6.1.** For an exact Courant algebroid any choice of a splitting of the exact sequence (6.1) that has an isotropic image yields an isomorphism  $E \approx (TM \oplus T^*M)$  where the latter is endowed with a twisted Courant bracket [2]. The brackets of the transitive Courant algebroids were determined in [19, 24] and may be made explicit by using a splitting as above. These results extend to transversal Courant algebroids if we add the hypothesis that the exact sequence (6.1) has a foliated splitting, which is no more an automatic fact.

**Remark 6.2.** If  $E$  is a transversal-Courant algebroid over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ , the local projected bundles  $\{E_{Q_U}\}$  are Courant algebroids over the local transversal manifolds  $Q_U$  of  $\mathcal{F}$ . In the case of a submersion  $M \rightarrow Q$  with connected and simply connected fibers,  $E \rightarrow M$  projects to a Courant algebroid over  $Q$ .

**Example 6.1.** For any foliated manifold  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  the vector bundle  $\nu\mathcal{F} \oplus \nu^*\mathcal{F} = \nu\mathcal{F} \oplus \text{ann } T\mathcal{F}$  has the structure of a transversal-Courant algebroid induced by the classical Courant structure of the local transversal manifolds  $Q_U$  of Remark 6.2.

**Example 6.2.** Let  $A$  be a Courant algebroid over the foliated manifold  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  and let  $B$  be a subbundle of  $A$  that is a Courant algebroid with respect to the induced Courant bracket, anchor and metric. In particular, the metric induced in  $B$  must be non degenerate and  $A = B \oplus C$ ,  $C = B^{\perp_g}$ . A cross section  $c \in \Gamma C$  will be called  $B$ -foliated if,  $\forall b \in \Gamma B$ ,  $[b, c]_A \in \Gamma B$ . By the axioms of Courant algebroids (see condition 4) of Definition 6.1) we see that, on one hand, if the previous condition holds for  $b$  it also holds for  $fb$  ( $f \in C^\infty(M)$ ) and, on the other hand, if  $c$  is  $B$ -foliated and  $f \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$ ,  $fc$  is foliated (use  $g(b, c) = 0$ ). (The definition of a  $B$ -foliated cross section is not correct for an arbitrary  $a \in \Gamma A$ .) Now, it makes sense to assume that the pair  $(A, B)$  satisfies the following conditions (analogous to those in Definition 1.2): i)  $\sharp_A(B) = T\mathcal{F}$ , ii)  $\Gamma C$  is locally spanned by the  $B$ -foliated cross sections. Like for Lie algebroids (Section 1), these conditions show that  $C$  has a natural structure of a foliated vector bundle and we may add condition iii)  $g|_C \in \Gamma_{fol} \odot^2 C^*$ . From i), we get  ${}^t\sharp_A(\text{ann } T\mathcal{F}) \subseteq \text{ann } B = C^*$ , whence,  $\partial f \in \Gamma C$ ,  $\forall f \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$ . Furthermore, since  $A$  is a Courant algebroid we have (see condition 5), Definition 6.1)

$$(6.2) \quad (\sharp_A c_1)(g(b, c_2)) = 0 = g([c_1, b]_A + \partial g(c_1, b), c_2) + g(b, [c_1, c_2]_A + \partial g(c_1, c_2)),$$

where  $b \in \Gamma B$ ,  $c_1, c_2 \in \Gamma C$  and  $c_1, c_2$  are  $B$ -foliated. In view of condition iii), (6.2) becomes  $g(b, [c_1, c_2]_A) = 0$ , therefore,  $[c_1, c_2]_A \in \Gamma C$ . Moreover, using axiom 3) for the Courant algebroid  $A$  and for the triple  $(c_1, c_2, b)$  instead of  $(e_1, e_2, e_3)$  we see that the bracket  $[c_1, c_2]_A$  is  $B$ -foliated. Thus, conditions i), ii), iii) imply that  $(C, \sharp_A|_C, [ , ]_A|_{\Gamma_{fol} C})$  is a transversal-Courant algebroid over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ .

We have formulated the above example because, at the first sight, it could indicate the way to the notion of a foliated Courant algebroid. However, it seems that there are no corresponding, interesting, concrete examples and we shall propose another procedure below.

Assume that  $B$  is a  $g$ -isotropic subbundle of the Courant algebroid  $A$  of basis  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  such that  $\Gamma B$  is closed by  $A$ -brackets and consider the  $g$ -coisotropic subbundle  $C = B^{\perp_g} \supseteq B$ . By replacing  $c_1$  by  $b' \in \Gamma B$  in (6.2), we see that  $\Gamma B$  is closed by  $A$ -brackets if and only if

$$(6.3) \quad [b, c]_A \in \Gamma C, \quad \forall b \in \Gamma B, \forall c \in \Gamma C.$$

Like in Example 6.2, a cross section  $c \in \Gamma C$  will be called  $B$ -foliated if,  $\forall b \in \Gamma B$ ,  $[b, c]_A \in \Gamma B$  and this definition is correct. We will denote by  $\Gamma_B C$  the space of  $B$ -foliated cross sections of  $C$ .

**Definition 6.2.** Let  $A$  be a Courant algebroid over the foliated manifold  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ . A subbundle  $B \subseteq A$  will be called a *foliation* of  $A$  if the following conditions are satisfied:

- i)  $B$  is a  $g$ -isotropic and  $\Gamma B$  is closed by  $A$ -brackets,
- ii)  $\sharp_A(B) = T\mathcal{F}$ ,
- iii)  $\Gamma C, C = B^{\perp_g}$ , is locally spanned by the  $B$ -foliated cross sections,
- iv) for any pair of  $B$ -foliated cross sections  $c_1, c_2 \in \Gamma C$  one has  $g(c_1, c_2) \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$ .

A *foliated Courant algebroid* is a pair  $(A, B)$  where  $A$  is a Courant algebroid and  $B$  is a foliation of  $A$ .

**Proposition 6.1.** If  $(A, B)$  is a foliated Courant algebroid over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ , the vector bundle  $E = C/B, C = B^{\perp_g}$ , inherits a natural structure of an  $\mathcal{F}$ -transversal-Courant algebroid.

*Proof.* Since  $B$  is isotropic, there exist decompositions

$$(6.4) \quad A = B \oplus S \oplus B', \quad B \oplus S = C, \quad (B \oplus B') \perp_g S,$$

where  $B'$  is isotropic and  $g$  is non degenerate on the components  $B \oplus B'$  and  $S$ . We fix such a decomposition and define a structure of transversal-Courant algebroid on  $S$ .

Take

$$g_S = g|_S, \quad \sharp_S = \sharp_A \text{ (mod. } T\mathcal{F}), \quad [ , ]_S = pr_S[ , ]_A,$$

where the projection on  $S$  is defined by (6.4). Like in the proof of Proposition 1.2, properties ii) and iii) of Definition 6.2 yield a foliated structure of  $S$  such that  $s \in \Gamma S$  is foliated with respect to this structure if and only if  $s$  is  $B$ -foliated. We check that,  $\forall s \in \Gamma_B C, \sharp_{SS}$  is  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated. Indeed, if  $Y \in \Gamma T\mathcal{F}$ , property ii) allows us to write  $Y = \sharp_A b, b \in \Gamma B$  and we have

$$[Y, \sharp_A s]_A = [\sharp_A b, \sharp_A s]_A = \sharp_A [b, s]_A \in \Gamma T\mathcal{F},$$

therefore  $\sharp_A s$  is a foliated vector field on  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ . Thus,  $\sharp_S$  is a foliated morphism. Furthermore, property iv) implies that  $g_S$  is a foliated metric.

The decomposition (6.4) also gives  $A^* = B^* \oplus S^* \oplus B'^*$  and we have

$$\flat_g(B) = B'^*, \quad \flat_g(S) = S^*, \quad \flat_g(B') = B^*.$$

If  $\gamma \in \text{ann } T\mathcal{F}$ ,  $t\sharp_A \gamma$  vanishes on  $B$ , because of property ii), hence,  $t\sharp_A \gamma \in S^* \oplus B'^*$  and  $\sharp_g t\sharp_A \gamma \in C$ . In particular,  $\forall f \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F}), \partial f \in \Gamma C$ . This fact allows us to use again (6.2), while taking  $s_1, s_2 \in \Gamma_B C$  instead of  $c_1, c_2$ , and we see that  $[s_1, s_2]_A \in \Gamma C$ . Now, if we write down the equality iii), Definition 6.1 for the Courant algebroid  $A$  and for  $e_1, e_2, e_3$  replaced by  $s_1, s_2 \in \Gamma_B C, b \in \Gamma B$ , the right hand side vanishes and we remain with  $[[s_1, s_2]_A, b]_A = 0$ , which shows that  $[ , ]_S$  takes foliated cross sections to foliated cross sections.

Thus,  $S$  is endowed with all the structures required by Definition 6.1 and it remains to check the conditions 1)-5). It is easy to check that  $\partial_S = \partial_A$

on  $C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$ . Accordingly, 1)-5) are implied by the similar properties of the Courant algebroid  $A$  (in particular, for 2) we may use the fact that this condition is equivalent with  $g(\partial_S f_1, \partial_S f_2) = 0, \forall f_1, f_2 \in C_{fol}^\infty(M, \mathcal{F})$  [14]). The conclusion of the proposition follows by transferring the structure obtained on  $S$  to  $E$  via the natural isomorphism  $E \approx S$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 6.1.** *If  $(A, B)$  is a foliated Courant algebroid over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  and if  $\mathcal{F}$  consists of the fibers of a submersion  $M \rightarrow Q$  with connected and simply connected fibers, the vector bundle  $E = B^{\perp_g}/B$  projects to a Courant algebroid on  $Q$ .*

**Remark 6.3.** If  $B$  is a subbundle of the Courant algebroid  $A$  that satisfies conditions i), ii) of Definition 6.2 and if we ask the quotient bundle  $A/B$  to be a transversal-Courant algebroid such that its metric, anchor and bracket be induced by those of  $A$ , then, obviously,  $B$  is a foliation of  $A$ .

The previous proposition and corollary show the interest of the notion of a foliated Courant algebroid. The following examples show that Definition 6.2 is reasonable. In these examples  $T^{big}M = TM \oplus T^*M$  is the Courant algebroid defined in [4]; the anchor is the projection on  $TM$  and the metric and bracket are defined by

$$(6.5) \quad g((X_1, \alpha_1), (X_2, \alpha_2)) = \frac{1}{2}(\alpha_1(X_2) + \alpha_2(X_1)),$$

$$(6.6) \quad [(X_1, \alpha_1), (X_2, \alpha_2)] = ([X_1, X_2], L_{X_1}\alpha_2 - L_{X_2}\alpha_1 + \frac{1}{2}d(\alpha_1(X_2) - \alpha_2(X_1))).$$

**Example 6.3.** A regular Dirac structure  $D \subseteq T^{big}M$  is a foliation of the Courant algebroid  $T^{big}M$  over  $(M, \mathcal{E})$ , where  $\mathcal{E}$  is the characteristic foliation of  $D$ . In this case the quotient bundle is  $D^{\perp_g}/D = 0$ .

**Example 6.4.** If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a foliation of  $M$ ,  $T\mathcal{F}$  is a foliation of the Courant algebroid  $T^{big}M$ . Indeed, using (6.5) we get  $C = T^{\perp_g}\mathcal{F} = TM \oplus \text{ann } T\mathcal{F}$ . A pair  $(X, \gamma) \in \Gamma C$  is  $T\mathcal{F}$ -foliated if and only if  $X$  is an  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated vector field and  $\gamma$  is an  $\mathcal{F}$ -foliated 1-form. The conditions of Definition 6.2 are obviously satisfied and the corresponding transversal-Courant algebroid is  $E = C/T\mathcal{F} = \nu\mathcal{F} \oplus \text{ann } T\mathcal{F}$ , already mentioned in Example 6.1. Notice that  $T\mathcal{F}$  remains a foliation of  $T^{big}M$  if the Courant bracket is twisted by means of a closed 3-form  $\Phi$  such that  $i(Y)\Phi = 0, \forall Y \in T\mathcal{F}$  [20].

**Example 6.5.** Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a foliation of  $M$  and  $\theta \in \Omega^2(M)$  be a closed 2-form. From [25], it is known that  $E_\theta = \{(Y, i(Y)\theta) / Y \in T\mathcal{F}\}$  is an isotropic subbundle of  $T^{big}M$ , which is closed by the Courant bracket (6.6), and its orthogonal bracket is  $E'_\theta = \{(X, i(X)\theta + \gamma) / X \in TM, \gamma \in \text{ann } T\mathcal{F}\}$ . A simple computation gives

$$[(Y, i(Y)\theta), (X, i(X)\theta + \gamma)] = ([Y, X], i([Y, X])\theta + L_Y\gamma).$$

Accordingly,  $(X, i(X)\theta + \gamma) \in \Gamma E'_\theta$  is  $E_\theta$ -foliated if and only if  $X \in \Gamma_{fol}TM$ ,  $\gamma \in \Omega^1_{fol}(M)$  and, like in Example 6.4, the conditions of Definition 6.2 are satisfied and  $E_\theta$  is a foliation of  $T^{big}M$ . Again, the corresponding quotient bundle is  $E'_\theta/E_\theta \approx \nu\mathcal{F} \oplus \text{ann } T\mathcal{F}$ .

Below, we prove a result that has the flavor of a reduction and was inspired by [27]. Let  $B$  be a foliation of the Courant algebroid  $A$  over the foliated manifold  $(M, \mathcal{F})$ . Let  $N$  be a submanifold of the base manifold  $M$ , and consider the restricted vector bundles  $A_N, B_N, C_N = B_N^{\perp g_A}$ .

**Proposition 6.2.** *With the notation above, assume that:*

- (i)  *$N$  is transversal to and has a clean intersection with the leaves of the foliation  $\mathcal{F}$ ,*
- (ii) *(the reduction hypothesis)  $\sharp_A(C_N) \subseteq TN$ .*

*Then, the vector bundle  $E_N = C_N/B_N$  is a transversal-Courant algebroid over  $(N, \mathcal{F}' = \mathcal{F} \cap N)$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $B$  is a foliation of  $A$ , there exist local bases  $(b_h \in \Gamma B, a_u \in \Gamma_B C)$  of  $\Gamma C$  and the induced local bases of cross sections of  $E = C/B$  have local transition functions of the form  $[\tilde{a}_u]_{\text{mod. } B} = \alpha_u^v [a_u]_{\text{mod. } B}$  such that  $\alpha_u^v$  are constant on the leaves of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Then,  $\alpha_u^v$  are constant on the leaves of  $\mathcal{F}'$  too and the local bases  $[a_u|_N]_{\text{mod. } B_N}$  of  $\Gamma E_N$  define an  $\mathcal{F}'$ -foliated structure on  $E_N$ . Using these bases, we see that a cross section of  $E_N$  is foliated with respect to the  $\mathcal{F}'$ -foliated structure of  $E_N$  if and only if, locally, it is of the form  $[c|_N]_{\text{mod. } B_N}$  where  $c$  is  $B$ -foliated. Moreover, the metric induced on  $E_N$  by the metric  $g$  of  $A$  obviously is a foliated metric.

In view of the reduction hypothesis, the mapping

$$[c]_{\text{mod. } B} \mapsto [\sharp_A c]_{\text{mod. } T\mathcal{F}} \quad (c \in \Gamma C)$$

produces a vector bundle morphism  $\sharp_{E_N} : E_N \rightarrow \nu\mathcal{F}'$ , which will be the anchor of the required Courant structure on  $E_N$ . Like in the proof of Proposition 6.1, we can see that this anchor is a foliated morphism.

Now, we will show the existence of a bracket  $[\cdot, \cdot]_{C_N} : \Gamma C_N \times \Gamma C_N \rightarrow \Gamma E_N$  induced by the Courant bracket of  $A$ . The definition of this bracket is

$$(6.7) \quad [c_1, c_2]_{C_N}(x) = [\tilde{c}_1, \tilde{c}_2]_A(x) \quad (\text{mod. } B_x), \quad x \in N,$$

where  $\tilde{c}_1, \tilde{c}_2$  are arbitrary extensions of  $c_1, c_2$  to  $\Gamma C$ . In order to prove that the result does not depend on the choice of the extensions it suffices to show that if  $\tilde{c}_2|_N = 0$  then  $[\tilde{c}_1, \tilde{c}_2]_A(x) \in B_x$ . To see that, take a local basis  $(b_h \in \Gamma B, a_u \in \Gamma_B C)$  of  $\Gamma C$  and put  $\tilde{c}_2 = f^h b_h + k^u a_u$  where  $f^h, k^u$  vanish on  $N$ . Using the axioms of a Courant algebroid (see 4) of Definition 6.1), under the conditions above, we remain with

$$[\tilde{c}_1, \tilde{c}_2]_A(x) = - \sum_u g_x(\tilde{c}_1(x), a_u(x)) \partial k^u(x).$$

Furthermore, for any  $c \in \Gamma C$  we have

$$g(c, \partial k^u) = \frac{1}{2}(\sharp_{AC})k^u = 0$$

(because  $\sharp_{AC} \in TN$  and  $k^u|_N = 0$ ), therefore,  $\partial k^u(x) \in B_x$ , which ends the proof of the correctness of the definition of the bracket (6.7).

The bracket (6.7) produces a bracket of foliated cross sections of  $E_N$  as follows. If  $\gamma \in \Gamma_{fol}E_N$ , then, in a neighborhood of  $x \in N$ , we may write  $\gamma = \sum_u \varphi^u(x^a)[a_u|_N]_{\text{mod. } B_N}$ , which implies that  $\gamma$  may be represented by a cross sections of  $C_N$  that has the  $B$ -foliated, local extension  $\tilde{\gamma} = \sum_u \varphi^u(x^a)a_u$ . If we put

$$(6.8) \quad [\gamma_1, \gamma_2]_{E_N}(x) = [\tilde{\gamma}_1|_N, \tilde{\gamma}_2|_N]_{C_N}(x) = [\tilde{\gamma}_1, \tilde{\gamma}_2]_A(x) \ (\text{mod. } B_x),$$

we get a well defined bracket on  $\Gamma_{fol}E_N$ .

Thus, on  $E_N$  we have all the components required by the definition of a transversal-Courant algebroid over  $(N, \mathcal{F}')$  and, moreover, these components may be seen as restrictions to  $N$  of the components of the transversal-Courant algebroid  $E$  over  $(M, \mathcal{F})$  given by Proposition 6.1. Hence, condition 1)-5) of Definition 6.1 are satisfied and we are done.  $\square$

We finish by the observation that a definition similar to Definition 6.1 may be given for a notion of *holomorphic Courant algebroid*; we just have to replace the word “foliated” by “holomorphic” everywhere. Furthermore, if we state Definition 6.2 for complex vector bundles  $A, B$  over a complex analytic manifold  $M$ , and with  $T\mathcal{F}$  replaced by the anti-holomorphic tangent bundle of  $M$ , we get the notion of a foliation of a complex Courant algebroid. The corresponding quotient  $E$  will be a holomorphic Courant algebroid. Examples 6.4, 6.5 can be adapted to the holomorphic case

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Department of Mathematics  
 University of Haifa, Israel  
 E-mail: vaisman@math.haifa.ac.il